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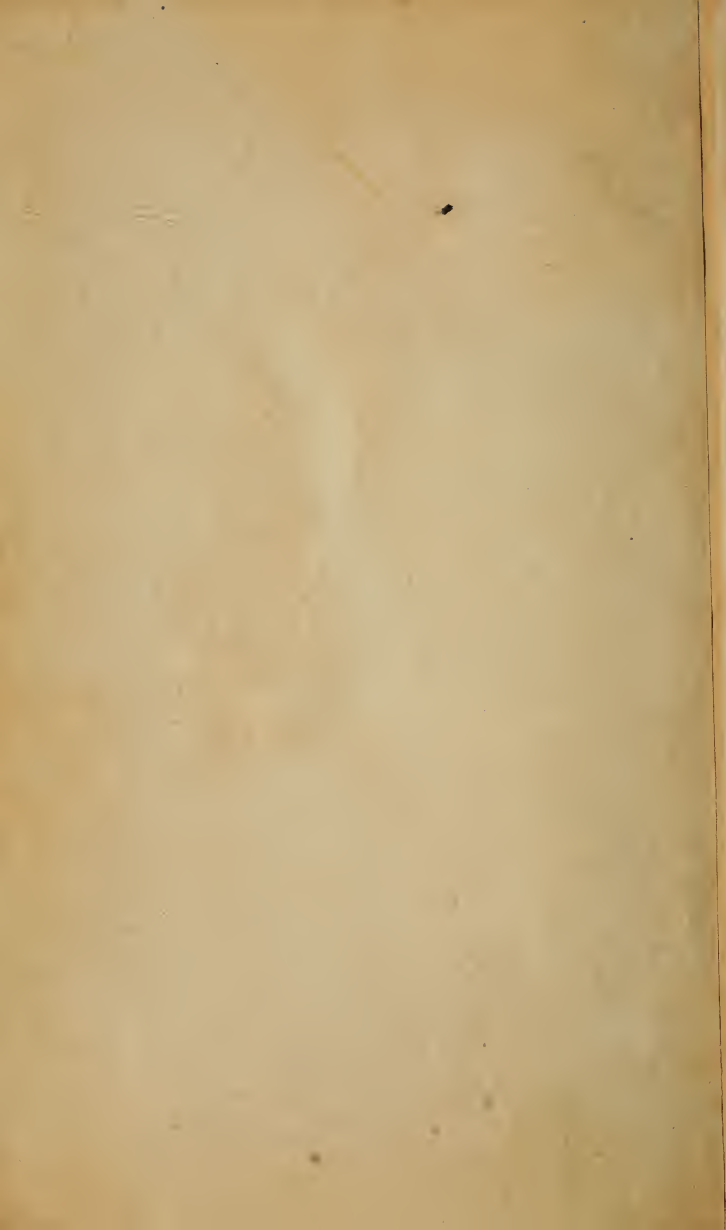




Blue Eye to Berlin

BY UNCLE BLAIR

Ben McCann "On Root"



THE AVIATOR

It was June
In Saskatoon—
June in London,
June in the Moon.

It was noon
At Saskatoon—
Noon at Gunnison,
Dusk at Verdun.*

Over the wheat-field billows
Loiter light clouds at noon.
Drifting beneath in their shadows,
Dream I of far Verdun.

My body lies in Dead Man's Hill,
And my soul is at Saskatoon.

TWO PARODIES

Here I raise my Ebenezer—
Susan Jane and Adoniram;
Em'ly, Ann, Joab and Joseph,
Jeboshaphat and Joshuway—
Teach them all to chaw tobacco,
Teach them to make apple cider,
Catch raccoons and patch the harness

Were I royal Antiquary
To the Bank of Timbuctoo,
I would paint its Dromedary,
Paint the sacred Dromedary,
From dusty dun to dim book blue.
I surely should make him look new.

*Please pronounce Vairdoon.

Blue Eye to Berlin

Amazing War Record

1059
127

OF CHEVALIER McCANN
A Twentieth Century Marco Polo
Traveler and Strategist

Fiction Marvelous Almost as Fact

Edited by Uncle Blair

Oakland, Cal.

PUBLISHED BY THE AUTHOR

J.E.WHINNERY

1920

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PREFACE

THE aim, intent, purpose of this book is to amuse and instruct, to be taken, in the main, as a friendly satire on the Decline, Fall, and Picking Up Again of the War Correspondent.

On the last page the Mar-Casey (Marchese di Mirandola) calls McCann chevalier. What Grand Duchess gave him the title we know not.

In the American Civil War Charles A. Dana held the Government steady in support of the Vicksburg campaign. Whitelaw Reid's story of Shiloh overbore that of the Commanding General. Albert D. Richardson, Henry Villard, George W. Smalley, with others of the press, made the struggle near and real to the men and women at home. "Bull Run" Russell's taunts spurred the North to her stride. Meade insisted on a Correspondent being drummed out of camp—and allowed him to return quietly. The War Correspondent reached his highest estate when Archibald Forbes was invited to headquarters by Alexander III, praised and consulted. In the war of 1914-19 the Military conceded to the War Correspondents scant recognition. Many came home discouraged. A few

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able men found recompense in the approving confidence of American readers.

When one's characters use a dialect outlandish and grotesque, the author or editor is often tempted, compelled sometimes, to collaborate. In this book, in a few instances, the language used drifts from Hero to Author, and back, without explanation, without puzzling a reader.

"Bein ez how" is Ben McCann's countersign. In the days when Allan Thorndike Rice or Lloyd Bryce edited the North American Review that Review came in so-called exchange to the author's newspaper office, as did also Scientific American. One day a young gentleman called and asked to see a copy of the North American. We had taken the Review home, per custom, so gave him a note asking the Lady-in-Charge to get him a copy. He saw it contained no drawings, and said, doubtfully:

"I don't believe this is it, but bein' ez how I've come, I'll take it along."

(It was the Scientific American he wanted.) Our vocabulary having no crisp translator of Spanish *asi como*, we adopted bein' ez how.

Gen. Sherman's Memoirs are the only books we know, by a military man, that contain no maps. Sherman mentions official maps soon to appear, to supply this want. He naively adds that they will reduce the cost of his Memoirs. In our book no place is mentioned that is not

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in any one of several good Atlases, and it is more convenient to use a separate book of Maps than to turn back the pages of this volume.

Once we ventured to amend a writer who credited Gen. Sherman's brother, Senator John, with the phrase "The way to resume is to resume," which belonged to Horace Greeley, in 1868, ten years before Sherman and our great financiers had finished piling up gold and silver which were not needed, to prepare for Payment in Specie. As Horace foresaw, as soon as we began paying out gold, the balance of trade 'd do the rest. If Europe had to have our food-stuffs, she'd send her gold, if there were no profit dickering for cheaper paper. Our history in 1914-19 makes '78 statesmen a little absurd.

Statement of Federal reserve circulation, on page 214, is for all U.S.A. Dec. 13, '19, the total had increased to \$2,907,000 000; Dec. 20, 1919, \$2,988,000,000; Dec. 27, \$3,057,646,000; an immense paper circulation, of which every dollar is interchangeable with gold on demand. Dec. 20, '18, \$2,663,701,000. On Dec. 27, 1919, loans of New York banks had increased to \$5,005,-152,000; check and time deposits, \$4,158,142,000.

The rule of fiction is, not "Did it happen?" but "Might it have happened?" Chevalier McCann's personal adventures are imaginary: when he drops into history he is fairly accurate. On p. 174 King Albert's uncle Leopold is mis-called his father. Victor Immanuel III is called II. Victor Immanuel I. was King of Sardinia

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only. Second was First of United Italy.

The author is not sure that the system of numbering regiments used in the 1917-19 was adopted at the President's suggestion, as seems to be implied on the last page. Perhaps it was to permit veterans of former wars to stand forth more distinctly.

Last Sunday (Dec. 28, 1919) Mr. Wilson attained the age of 63. Many more birthdays, Mr President. It is not the fault of the most eminent writer, of all our Presidents, that in his Administration Author and Publisher have been comparatively least prosperous.

For twenty years we had assumed Wilson's voice is high: To hear it, in 1919, low and rather heavy, shocked us as when we saw Lamar.: "Can that raw-boned, coarse-haired giant be the orator of the most beautiful tribute to Charles Sumner?"

Several writers have dated the sudden rise in the cost of Food from 1914. It began in Fall of 1916, coincident with the Squeeze. In Spring and Summer of 1916 food was cheaper than in any of four preceding years. On July 20, 1916, Uncle Blair (the author) bought 49 lbs of good Walla Walla flour for \$1.25 cheapest we ever. Uncle Blair's cost of food for December, 1919, was \$7.68: Nov. \$7.29; Oct., \$7.65; Nov., '17, \$4.84 Nov. '16, \$4.90; Nov., '15, \$3.90. Monthly Av'ge, 1915, \$4.48; 1916, \$4.36; first ten mo. '16, \$4.17; first 6 mo. of '14, \$5.20½; 1918, \$6.32; 1919, \$6.84½; 1913, \$5.61. No milk or butter used; no eggs since May, '17. In '13 not watchful.

Exports tabulated p.217, are all from U.S.A.

On-Redeemed Italy

Blue Eye (Mo.) correspondence of the States-Democrat, Oct. 19, 1915:

"Ben McCann, who conducted the horseshoeing and repair shop on the Arkansas line road, 1871-92, is in town. At the suggestion of a titled friend, as an expert in Missouri horses, he has been appointed a non-combatant inspector and is en route for Italy. At the age of twelve, Ben was present at the battle of Pea Ridge."

Borgo-on-the-Brenta, Nov. 19, 1915.

Nobody calls it that, but I votes for the west-of-the-mountains style, like Chalons-sur-Marne, Wacht-am-Rhein, und so weider; here in Tyrol they say Voels-near-Innsbruck, Voels-near-Botzen. I 'llow it's easier to find a town by follerin' up an' down a river than to find some other town, an' figger from theh wheh ye gwine to. This kentry hez dooplicate names ez thick ez France—or worser yit, mo' towns than they hez names to go roun': (countin' this here Borgo [Borgo di Val Sugana] ez b'longed to Ostry till we come) they's four Borgos in Italy I knows about—some say they's five—besides one Borgo in Hungary. The bes' known

Borgo is Borgo di San Marino, on the aidge of the tiny independent republic enti'lly s'rounded by Italy. Taint so independent ez it used to be. The Eyetalian consul is on-common like the British agent in Egyp'.

I cal'late "Borgo" means much the same as "Burg" in Chermin, or "C. H." in Appomattox C. H. On top of all, mos' towns an' rivers an' sich hez two names: one Chermin, one Italian. [Uncle Blair tried to make me pernounce it Eetalian, but I perfers to translate furrin names into English like French writers translates ours—Nouvelle Orleans fur New Orl'ans, États Unis fur U. S. A.] The Adige an' the Etsch air the same identicle river.

One time Uncle Blair come to me with a map of the Battle of Pea Ridge: "Heah's the Bentonville road an' the Fayetteville road, and the Keetsville road, but I kaint find Keetsville in either Arkinsaw or Mizzoory, in any atlas." They wor, and is yit, a county seat in middle Mizzoory, by the name of Keytesville, bigger'n Keetsville, an' lots of folks kaint spell eether name. Some of the maps of the battle hez Keetsville spelt Keytesville. Even the natives after the war didn't allers git it right, so when a ex-bushwhacker or bandit or one of the James boys writ a 'nonymous letter to a ex-gorilla in Keytesville, like ez not it 'd go to Keetsville, or viva voce, au' miss makin' the trouble intended—an' so President Rozyvelt (or mebbly it was

Andrew Johnsing) tells his postmaster general to change Keetsville to Mayflower, a purtier name. They kaint do that over here, the towns is too old-established, and in the old times Tyrol folks didn't travel so much, or git many letters. A man in Voels then often didn't know they was another Voels not sixty mile away.

Mayflower is a few mile west by north from Blue Eye—they's only one Blue Eye in United States: got its name the same way.

Trent is Trento in Italian, Trient (tree-aint) in Chermin; Botzen hez a alias, Bolzano; Inn-chen is San Candido, and so on.

San Michele is Irish for Mike; they's two of him in this postal-zone or war-zone ye might say. One is over on the Isonzo, close to Goritzia—it hez a shorter Chermin name, too, one syllable (Goertz.) The other is eleven mile north of Trent at the change cars for the Val di Non (rhyme with loan) and Val di Sole (rhyme with holy). So when Franz Josef sees them Italians hez took St. Mike he don' know whether to be skeert about Trent or Trieste.

In school at Blue Eye we learned jography singin' or chantin', startin' out:

"State of Maine, Augusty, is on the Kennebec river;

* * * * *

Oregon, Salem, is on the Will'm-mette river——"

After I come to the coast I learnt to say Wilahmet river. One teacher hed us draw maps. We made France like a fat teapot, and Italy the shape of a boot. The Italians is tryin' to smooth off the top of thet boot, with high tops. Ostry favors the old military style, sich as was called Napoleons, Italy them worn by a Hofer or John Bull. Cortina is needd the highest p'int of the boot. Ever sence then, Italia irridenta hez been fussin' to hev thet boot-top fixed, but the folks right theh wan't anxious to fight theh neighbor tooris-busters.

By the big-road, Borgo is about twenty mile inside the Ostrin boundry. Trent is some twenty mile further on, but it seems a lot mo'—some them miles is almighty long ones. The army is mostly sumwer a-haid. It was a town of 5,000 or so before we come, and is the capital of Val Sugana. Off to the south the boundry is not mo' 'n five or six mile, but they's a pow'ful cima or precipice in between, 'bout 7,000 foot above the bed of the Brenta. Peggy would say is jest grand. This kentry is fuller of scenery than any I ever see. In fact the scenery is its best fortifications. It's worth \$300,000 to h'ist a \$200,000 gun up some of the steep places in the scenery, so they took to sendin em acrost from one high mounting to another, by a-erial single-track railway; the Italians is mighty cunnin' at new ways and short-cuts; seems like ez ef they knock the spots off the Connecticut folks and other New Englanders.

The mountings looks jaggeder, mostly, than the Olympics from Seattle, and they live up to theh looks; but the colorin is mo' like the San Francisco Fair bildins'; the snow don't come so fur down per elevation.

Cortina, tho sixty mile northeast, by airy-plane flyin' high, is needer the Italian boundry than Borgo, owin to the high-front boot-top.

Irridenta means on-redeemed like the stores that sells on-redeemed pledges at phenomenal low prices, tho they don't truly shave off the price much of solid gold.

The folks at Cortina and some other p'int is pow'ful sore about this war. Forty year or more ago a tooris' who could wear his old cloze an' keep his mouth shet could live nice in Cortina or its sooburbs fur a dollar a week, with ten million dollars' worth of scenery throwed in. But a lady come who could write jest lovely [Amelia Edwards]—

“To the Red East-Alpine mountings
Come a stranger in the Spring—”

An' sp'iled it all. The idle rich see her book, and come a-runnin', so the honest, friendly Italian-Chermin boys and girls come to be high-rollers. The simple life oncet hed no prouder clime than the Tyrol. I'llow the sojers aint spendin' much, an' theh own men, so many, is off in the Balkans or in Galicia. Cortina hez they say, the finest views in the known world,

but is on open ground itself, so kaint be easy defended. I cal'late Ostry won't make much of a fight fur it, fear of sp'ilin' the fine hotels, albergos, auberges, gasthauses and sich-like.

I 'llow, when we git to Trent, the view will fine, but they's some horrible forts two mile and a half this side. Most any Catholic kin tell about Trent, tho some of the men don' stay very closet to theh cattykism. The las' big round-up of the docterns of the Church was at the Council of Trent. In the early ages they held councils most ez offen ez Sunday school picnics—in Europe, Asia an' Afriky—and at airy one some alleged heresy got done up. In the sixteenth century Dr. M. Luther and others kicked fur a new council to re-form the battle line; but when it come it wor a boomerang; the Ole Guard hed a bigger sheer of the electors than Woodrow the Scholarly first time he run; I perzoom the re-formers claimed frodd; some say they was skeert of a ambush on root.

After buckin' fur quite a spell, Pope Paul III decided he could call the bluff, any'ow he calls the council at Trent, whch Lutherans was skeerce, an' the grocers wan't organized, an livin' was cheaper than anywers outside Tyrol. It met Dec. 13, 1545, and spent about 50 cents a week per capita till March, 1547, when the Trent health officer got on a bender, and the cholera crawled in thro a crack in the fence. Bologna sausage was reckoned the best antidote

an' so the council moved to Bologna, but boloney disagreed with all but the Franciscans, so the Pope sent 'em all home in September, 1549; he started 'em up agin May 1, 1551, at Trent: that is Julius III did. In 1552 Maurice of Saxony marched a Protestant army in, after whippin Charles V: the council lit out fur theh several homes. Ten year later, Paul IV started it up agin at Trent, and in two year more the platform was completed, without a look-in fur the Lutherans or the Presbyterians: the doctern of Purgatory was settled, and the Index Expurgatorius pervided, and publishers notified. This would of let out Hall Caine's latest book. Rabelais was already hidin' out, (and layin' all-fired low) behin' the ex post facto law. It concluded ez follers:

“ Anathema to all heretics! Anathema!!
Anathema !!!

The council begun 1545, ended 1564, but its work was all done in three two-year tricks.

The members was law-abidin, and spent a little money, and the Tyrol hez bin strong Catholic ever sence. Pius IX held the next council at Rome in 1870, endurin' no mo' 'n a few weeks. It didn't kivver many p'int: ez how the las' percedin council hed been slow but sure, “not fur its day only but fur all time .

Leastways its enactments is still in use, and workin' satisfactory.

Trent is 'bout the same age as Rome, and is quite interestin'. Ef I git theh, I may write it up. Some say it's wu'th a long visit.

I kaint send much war news, bein' ez how I don't know much, and ef I did I aint dead sho' I kin git it thro'. Italian censors is said to be right smart perliter than the Chermin; the last-named will say "Verboten," and waste no mo' time on ye; the Italian will say, "A brilliant letter, sir, and will please our friends in your kentry very much." Bnt they do say the Chermin will let go twiset ez much ez the Italian jest the same.

MARCHESE DI MIRANDOLA TO OUR HERO

Udine, Sept. 19, 1915.—You remember saying that you were concerned in supplying the French cavalry in 1870 with horses from Missouri "an' round theh." Our chiefs are importing what horses they can get, tho where this army now is, goats would seem to do better. However, we may later be somewhere where the hills are'nt so steep. Today I had an opportunity to mention your experience; you may hear of this thro' the regular channels soon. Can you tell a good mule? Not morally good, you know, but his barrel, heels, et cetera.

Miss Yates can inform you why I can't visit the Fair as planned. With regrets sincere and dearest love to * * —di Mirandola.

Sette Comuni and Thirteen

ST. MIKE (San Michele) Dec. 18.—In '83 at Blue Eye, chickens got to disappearin so all-fired frequent the township trustees held a special meetin. Jeff Purdy sejested offerin a cash reward of Ten Dollars dead or alive. Bill Jasper asked to hev it made ten dollars dead or twenty dollars alive. Jedge Purdy p'inted out it'd be a sight mo' dangersome to ketch the bandit 'live than to sneak up behind him in the bresh and shoot him. Bill 'llowed thet as one reason he sejested the extry ten, the other ez how he (or she) 'd be mo' of a curiosity: so ordered.

I 'llow the Austrians must of put it up to the King and Gen. Cadorna to totely destroy Trent befo' they could git it. Leastways we didn't go no needer Trent than Levico. The Italians, I jedge, hated to spile the antiquated bildins and bric-a-brac of Trent, cal'latin, ef they git it, to make some money later on, out of tourists: them from Rome re-lizes how much they is in the tooris biznez.

They was right smaht early fightin' between

Levico and Pergine, but I wan't present. The Val Sugana ends east of Levico. Pergine, 7 miles from Trent, is in the valley of the Fersina, which runs thro a deep ravine 'most to Trent, commanded in every pertickler by modern artillery. Off to the northeast is five Chermin villages surrounded by an Italian population. The place they yodels so fine is mostly farther north,

When Bill Jasper and me was in Minneapolis in '86, we see Vernona Zharbeau in "Starlight." She yodeled and talked in Chermin dialect in defiance of her French name. She told how ahe had a little colt when she sang at Monkey-Tail Hall in Cincinnati [Mercantile.] She danced in Wooden Shoes, and come down on the stage like a thousand of brick. In a drug store scene they was a show-keerd on the wall—

Ring the bell softly—

They's mud on the knob.

It was a parody on

Ring the bell gentle,

They's crape on the do'.

Bill laffed fit to kill. I got shamed of him, but got to goin' bad as he, laffin at every blessed thing that come along. The prosperity of a jest is domiciled in gittin' em started so they kaint stop. I got so I'd laugh every darn time she opened her mouth, befo' she could git a word out.

I felt shamed, too, when I come to think of

it; then I laff, feel sheepish that I done it, and then loff at the very next one.

I 'llow the Italians don't keer much for Trent —fur some years it aint wot it used to be. At one time it was the richest town in all the Tyrol, but them times has passed away, and tooris' will be sca'ce next summer.

Off to the southeast from Trent is the Sette Comuni, or Seven Communities, German villages inside Italy. This region is a high plateau, up about 3,000 feet, covered with snow five months of the year, with a fringe of forest round the aidges. They made theh livin raisin, cattle and broad-rimmed straw hats, the latter in the winter mostly, after the cows was fed. Asiago is the biggest town, seven or eight thousand people. It has several fine buildins, most of which will be damaged if the Ostrins take a notion to bumbard the town, which is at the mercy of big guns on the mountains ten to fifteen mile northwest. Toorists used to come in from the great world afoot mostly, by a climb south from Borgo sometimes, oftener westward from Valstagna, in the Brenta valley after the Brenta bends south a few miles east of Borgo. The path from Valstagna leads one through the beautiful wild Frenzela gorge.

Here at San Michele (Michele is the Irish for Mike) we are eleven mile north of Trent. I had meant to go to the olber San Michele, in the Isonzo valley, and take part in the offensiv against Goritzzy. I didn't know they was two. I hed a hard time to git hyeh, too. This San

Michele is on the Adige, and is wher toorists got off the keers for the Val di Non (rhymes with phone) and the Val di Sole (rhymes with Holy) which they traveled via buckboard, or better yet on foot. The troops went in that way, laekin buckboards. Val di Non perduces wine and silk, and is only middlin' cold at this time of year, and the troops is still workin full time at comparative low wages. Folks in both these valleys is mostly Italian.

South of Trent it's mo' than Itwenty-seven mile to the Italian boundary, and jest inside of Italy is the Thirteen Communi, German settlements not so important as the Seven, which are thirty to forty mile northeast. The Thirteen are plumb south of Trent, and only a few mile due north of Verona, Juliet's home city.

'Long here is wher Ostry took the biggest bite out of Italy's boot-top. It's about twenty-two miles to Arco, where lots folks used to go for tooberkylosis. It has beautiful gardens. I hope they won't git damaged. Heavy fightin' round theh this winter.

Up in the Air

SUMWERS in Back of Caldonazzo, Jan. 9, '16.—Christmas eve a airypplane dropped a bum on my quarters at Borgo di Val Sugana, sp'ilin my clothes some. I got a permit to move back six mile in the direction of Venice and Bagdad whelh I 'llowed it 'd be safer.

New Year's was all-fired cold. Endurin' the day two airypplanes got into a fight about 1400 feet up in the sky from my place. They did mo' moukeyshines than Art Smith did at the S. F. Expozay.

Leap-frog, summer-sets, any way to git the Enemy, one to run each plane, another shootin' By and by one comes down, shot through his lights, 'bout ten rod off. I goes to him, still livin; he pints feeble to his inside pocket, then off north towrds Salzburg. When he's good sho' daid, I find six florins and two pictures.

One I 'llowed was his best girl, the other his sister, with a chin jest like his'n.

"By Jing, the sojer of Bingen over again.

That night I gits so blamed cold it woke me up. Jest as I woke, I felt a pistle in my face.

"Gid-dup," he says, in good U. S.

Then he makes me show him whelh his pardner lays, a-leavin his airypplain hitched out in

front. I never see anything so dang cheeky.

We kerries him, and straps him on the floor.

‘Now, gid-din.’

‘That’s another man’s cheer.’

‘He’s gestorben wesen, and won’t mind. Gid in, kervick!’

‘I kaint—my haid is too dizzy.’

He gives me a punch in the chist with his pistle-bar’l, and I takes the cheer. ‘Highness,’ I says, ‘don’t try any han’springs, please.’

He didn’t: we lit out down the big-road S. E. ez if plumb fur Venice, tight ez we could drive. When we got up about ten thousand foot, we made a long turn, smooth as silk, an’ heads about ten p’int’s no’t’h of west. I look cautious-like, to see off north, snow mountings of all shapes and sizes—mostly high ones—Tofana, Civetta, Sorapis, Cristallo, Marmolata, Antelao, Pelmo. Acrost a lake, beyant the Austri’n lines we sce a place fixed nice fur us to land, and we slid down, jest as Jan. 2 was dawnin.’

A. Tourist Prisoner

CAPRILE, or as near to town as I'm allowed to go, Jan. 25.—We stayed 'round Trent four or five days, till the Archduke got skeert of losin us. In spide of the cold and snow, the renewed ivity on this front gave us to onderstand that the King and Gen. Count Cadorna have missed the key to the oats-bin at Borgo, which I had in my pants-pocket, and had ordered a counter-Smash to repatriate the oats-bin key and me. So our captors sent and took enough mo' prizners to make a car-load. We didn't come in a a car, however. We walked, and carried a shovel, a long-handled shovel, apiece to clear the rood for the teamsters as did ride. We came a roundabout way, bein' ez how [censored]. I got a fine view on root for hours of Marmolata, the biggest of the Dolomites. All the Dolomite part was kivered out of sight under the snow. Ole Marmo. is over 11,000 feet high, nothin' like Mt. Blanc or Rainier or Shasta, but pretty good for this flat kentry. [Flat? I mean jag-ged. The Dolomites are steep and

sharp or rough, and middlin tall.

Speakin of Mout Blanc, Uncle Blair said the only times he ever made bulls or blunders bad enough to make him blush every time he recollects them:— He was walkin from Chehalis to Centralia with the Sheriff, not in custody: they was both walkin home, bein as how they wan't no trolley then, and steam trains didn't run often or convenient. Blair got to braggin up Rainier, how, standin with one foot at sea level one's eye takes in all of old Rainier's 14,000 foot—when it aint rainin, whereas in the case of many mountains, you're up half as high as the mountain when he comes first in view. I paused for breath, and the Sheriff says quiet-like he growed up in sight of a taller mountain—Mt. Blanc. Blair was goin to bet the sheriff Blanc is only 12,500—he'll bet yet itas that in Monteith's & McNally's in '68. He's had Mt. Blanc right ever since, 15,782-3.

The other time was when Uncle Blair in the hearing of a reti'd sea captain, who hed been theh, pronounced Barbadoes Barby-doze. Not long after he see something in London Punch that led him to believe that editor had a similar notion of the word, such as had been ours since the blissful day of our first meeting with Robinson Crusoe. Blair made a jingle to show the true rhyme and sent it to the editor, for his eye to read it all alone:

Those little darkies, Teddy-Bears, and dadoes
Are recent importations from Barbados.
A p'int agin Blanc, comparin with Rainier, the

peaks around Blanc's highest is so near as tall, while Rainier has no other peak within forty miles: St. Helens and Adams, southeast; north the only high peaks are Baker, near the Canadian border, 11,000 foot high, in the Cascades, east of Puget Sound, and Olympus, over 10,000, between the Sound and the Pacific, each more than a hundred miles away.

Our common-dant speaks United States better 'n I; he kin handle bigger words, too. He worked on a Seattle paper 1905; got took on in 1901 on Westliche Post, St. Louis (that Carl Schurz once edited: gestorben mit a few year sence.) Happened to be in Vienna and had to do his army duty. Talks to me middlin' free, bein' ez how he claims to be a sort of Himerican; 'llowed he'd try to git throo a postle card I writ to the Himerican ambassador. A citizen of the world he is; says he's s'prized at the showin Hungairy and Ostry is a-makin, bein ez how they aint hed no trully war for fifty year, and then they got done up in six weeks.

He's clumb Mt. Blanc, says 'taint no harder 'n Mt. Tofana, out in plain sight from hyeh and only 10 000 foot high. Still, some few hez got killed, most allers comin' down, all from over-confident; looks so all-fired easy they gits started too fast and kaint stop when they git to a jumpin-off place they didn't notice goin up. Then they's a few places wheh once in so offen stones rolls down libel to bust yo' haid.

Civetta, Marmolata, Cristallo, Sorapis, Pelmo,

Croda Rossa—'most all the Dolomites, is harder to climb than Blanc. I see a San Francisco paper spelt Cristallo Christabel, which is purtier. He says all ye kin see of Mt. Blanc from 'most anywers is jest his snoot, but its allers solid white—that's ez how he got his name—Blanc is Friuch for white: Even the big 14000-footer peeks close by turns gray mo' or less in midsummer, but the snoot of old Blanc sticks up white and glistenin on the hottest days, when the ice cream is meltin pow'ful in the vale of Chamounix, about 4,000 foot up; but ye kaint see the tip or snoot from the town or the railroad terminus-station; ye see some understudy mountings but not old Blanc. And in the summer about three-quarters of the days Blanc has his "toppy" buried in a cloud of fog, like the snow banner of Shasta, only mo' concealin'. It's so danged hot below, so danged cold at the top. On top of Blanc hisself the view from the top of his tip aint much, nothin' like Monte Rosa or the Matterhorn from Zermatt, or close by, or the Jungfrau, Eiger or Moench from Lake of Thun, or of several Dolomites from the big road jest beyant Cortina, or Civetta from Caprile. On top of a low mounting out in front, like Nuvolau, Generoso, Rigi, the Faulhorn, Switzerland, is the best place to see a bunch of them biggest mountings from to once. He says no single mounting looks ez big and imposin as Rainier from Puget Sound, or Shasta from a Southern Pacific train that keeps circlin' round and round him for half a

day, till ye kaint tell wher ye air.

Uncle Blair once told me the bes' view of Rainier is at Lakeview station, on the Northern Pacific, 'bout nine mile south of Tacoma. To one posted there he shows only one highest peak, that on a sunny day seems to rise almost directly perpendicular above you, like a great shadow, though many miles southeastward. Rainier has a great many rainy and cloudy days, when he kaint be seen at all, to balance the fogs of Mount Blanc.

The common-Danty (I call him that when I talk in Italian) kin read Italian as good Chermin. (I shouldn't wonder he kin speak Irish.) He got a Milano paper tellin ez how the Italians had been shellin the station at Toblach, in the Pooster Thal. I had no idee they had got no'th so fur. Looks like ez ef that endangers this bunch, but I aint and the common-dant don't act skeert.

Toblach is wher mos' tourists gits off the cars for the Dolomites via Schluderbach, Cortina and the Ampetzo.

Mebby they's tired climbin' mountings, and want to ride on the keers, or mebbby they want to git to Toblach jest to stan' aroun and see the cars come in, like we used to in early days at Berryville.

Schwester Hartmann

Salzburg, Feb. 14, via Amsterdam und so weider.—I wor allers an admirer of Admiral Van Tromp and old Peter Stuyvesant and hope mebbby they'll let this go past.

They's six Salzbergs in this part of Austr'y, but only one Salzburg: Salzburg near Ischl, ditto near Aussee, do. near Hall, ditto near Berchtesgaden, ditto near Hallstadt.

Salzburg is the most Chermin city in Franz Josef's empire, which isn't sayin much, bein ez how said empire is awful mixed up fur races, nations, dialects and languages. But even in Prooshy, they aint no large town that's purer Teutonic than Salzburg; here the people are 99½ per cent (99.5) Chermin. In the whole provinz only one-half of one per cent belongs to other nations or races.

Somehow it seems like ye strikes the most beautiful places at the wrong time of year.

In 1877 a man come to Blue Eye. He come in a private car till he got to the end of the railroad. He come to the foot of the Rainbow

after travlin a few mo' mile, mostly up-hill—some one had tol' him the fishin' was good. In a whole week he got only four or five bull-heads and two squirrels.

In spide of its common, cheap-by-the-ton name, Salzburg (Saltville) is one of the purtiest places that lays out-doors. How much purtier it must be in beauteous May !

Green and white matches beautiful; but the white is out of all proportion now, I reckon the green will be too much in May, probly not. They's enough snow mountings in sight all summer long to make a nice, white trimming. The city is split in two by the river Salzach (Salt River). The Cathedral and big bizness is on the left-hand side coming down stream, or going up from the railroad station. When many years ago the Grand Duke of Tuscany was fired, and his folks j'ined united Italy, his 'Ighness bought the big Residenz Schloss or palace, right acrost the Residenz Platz from the telegraph office and the Cathedral. Along the west side of the Schloss is the Kapitel Platz, on the opposite side of which is situated the fine old antique, the Archbishop's palace, restored some years' sence.

Close by, high above the town, and right in town, too, 400 feet above the Kapitel Platz, is the old fortress of Hohen-Salzburg. It dates from the 9th century, and still looks threatenin and fierce, high, stern, forbidding, rugged; but

present-day artillery would tumble down quick the grim, imposing pile.

In old times they wan't no way to take the Fortress except by starvin the garrison to death.

Salzburg castle or fortress minds me some of Edinburgh Castle, though I 'llow Salzburg has Edinburgh beat most ways. Each is right in town, and each nevertheless marks quite similar the deadline,

“Thus far and no farther.”

The three Platzes that surrounded grand ole Tuscany and his Palace on three sides—Dom platz, Residenz platz, Kapitel platz—has most of the fine bildins, wealth and biznez. The beer gardens and cheap real estate is acrost the Salzach, at the south end of the east side, just outside the suburb of Stein, which is like the city of Piedmont (by Oakland) surrounded on all sides by Salzburg City. Otherwise the salt city's suburb resembles Emeryville more than Piedmont; but Emeryville has Oakland on three sides only; on the fourth is the Bay. Stein does not approach the river.

In time of peace a big beer stein is this suburb's Emblem. But when the blasts of War break on our ears, the stein is remanded

to the cellar, and St. Francis Joseph Mars is set forward in his place.

[In the old steamboatin days the party that got licked went "up salt river" after election. Above this town the Salzach is too steep in places for skatin; and much of the scenery is like Edgar W. Nye's perpendicular farm; lots of retaining walls to keep the mountings from jumpin' into the river, and also blockin' the railroad.

They paraded us prizners in front of the Cathedral to show the ladies what their men have been a-doin. But we're a-goin to laugh last, my dears. They didn't march us far for fear of makin' us mo' hungry.

Schwester and The Betrothed were out to see us, but they didn't know me then.

Our common-Dante smiled pleasant at me, and I asked how kin I deliver the lock of ha'r and the pictures to the avvytor's sister who lived in the northeast part of the city, on the right or east bank, to the north of the Capuzinberg, not far from the Park and the railroad station. This part of the city has done most all the growin that's been done in the last thirty years. The older city lies between two great hills or mountains: The Moenschberg, west of the river, about two miles long, and the Capuzinberg, east of the

Salzach. The common-Dante some time sence applied for more dangerous service; he today received an order granting his request, and he goes to Trieste tomorrow. He is right smart elated, and believes now he will be given command of a submarine or a airyplane. He kin navigate either. He says to me, off-hand like, he hisself be my guard when I go to deliver the lock of flaxen hair to The Betrothed, and will then turn over his command.

A gently-warming sun had softened a little the snow when the common-Dante and I set out, each equipped with a permit from the General commanding the Garrison of Salzberg. He had to have one, same as I. We crossed the river on the footbridge, and walked through the Municipal Park, which had come to be renowned for its summer beauty.

In a quaint and comfortable-seeming cottage in a quiet strassy, not far from three or four costly villas, we found Frau Hartmann and Schwester, mother and sister of Lieutenant Reinhold Hartmann, shot down from a airyplane on the banks of the Brenta. One and only one glance showed to us that the two women had learned of his death. Something akin to resentment was expressed in Frau Hartmann's proud, fine face, as if she would herself demand of the Kaiser:

Franz Josef, geben sie mein Sohn
heraus!

Schwester seemed Chermin enough to match her pet-name: what her truly, Christian name is I haven't asked her yet. She had the calm and quiet ways, the mild brown eyes and light-brown hair, clear, cream and peaches skin, one found so often among German girls before the war. She wore a house-dress of homespun butternut-brown.

The common-Dante persented me to Frau Hartmann as the Himerican who had received the Herr Lieutenant's last message. I riz to take her proffered hand when the street door was pushed open as if by one accustomed and a tall girl, an inch or so taller than Schwester, a year or two younger like as not, with hair the sheen and color of that blonder gold they used to coin into \$5 and \$10 pieces at the Mint which John C. Calhoun persuaded Uncle Saml to establish near one of his three plantations. [Near Dahlonga, Georgia. The other two one discovers were in South Carolina, neither of all a large one.] Her skin was even fairer, whiter than Schwester Hartmann's. Her eyes blue-azure. A pathetic touch was given to the picture by a black dress, made and worn quite simply. February's frosty air had sent into her cheeks a faint under-current of color. She was presented to us both as The Betrothed.

She talked frankly of the Herr Lieutenant. From the beginning of the war she had had a

presentiment that it would bring misery and grief to her:

Adieu, mein allerliebt Schaelchen,
Wir sehn uns nimmermehr.

When Uncle Blair was a small, half-orphan boy, he used to visit on Saturdays the family of his mother's sister. The two women were daughters of a Pennsylvania German and the former, before her death, had arranged for these visits. When it was time for the visitor little boy to go home, his host would approach the home authorities with a request to go "part way" with his guest. When Bayard Taylor, in 1845, set out on foot from Frankfort for Vienna, a number of Frankfort boys and girls went "part way." I thought of this when the Schwester asked her mother if The Betrothed and she might go part way with us.

Before we started' The Betrothed sang the old ballad, "Lenore," by Buerger:

"Oh mutter, mutter, hin ist hin—

Verloren is verloren !

Der Todt, der Todt is mein Gewinn;

Oh, waere Ich nie geboren !"

The sun was right smart lower, the air more frosty, and the snow beginning to crunch under our feet when we four turned into the portal Capuzinerberg from which, by 250 steps, we ascended to the gate of the Monastery of the Capuchins. In the park we inspected the

"little house" that belonged to Mozart, which was brought hither all the way from Vienna; the latter city is a leetle over two hundred mile east by northeast from Salzburg. It was considered best to consolidate all the Mozartyanna in this town, which has jest reeked of Mozart, fur some years. They keep his skull sumwers in town to show tourists, but I cal'late our two girls won't take us to see it. In this "Mozart-hauschen" the great composer-pianist finished his "Zauberfloete." In front of the little house is a bronze bust of Mozart that has been genius loci of the hauseschen sence 1877.

If Mozart were livin now, he might like as not be besiegin Warsaw, and I. J. Paderewski defending.

My word ! but Schwester is a walker ! She swung up the 250 stone steps to Mozart's little house, breathed one sigh and started to once on the 400 more steps up thro the woods to the Aussicht nach Bayern—the Out-Look over Bavaria. Salzburg corners on Bavaria—that iz, the southeast corner of Bavaria is jest immediately acrost the river from this city. You see the south boundary of Bavaria runs westly from Salzburg. Both banks of the river, inside this city, belong to Austria. North of the city the left bank is in Bavaria. To the southward, and right in the city, it's hilly, even mountainious, but northward is plenty of level ground. On the east side, some forty rod north of Frau

Hartman's cottage, stands Maria Plain, a famous pilgrim church. Northwest, the Bavarian plain starts right here, and stretches away to Munich, ninety miles.

The Betrothed stood beside Schwester at the Aussicht, the fast-descending sun converting the flying strands of breeze-entouzeled hair into a halo of glory about her golden head. On the north at the left is the suburb, of Mulln, at the right Maria Plain, in the center the Salzach, from now Bavarian, speeding o'er the levels.

Farther and higher, the two pow'ful girls led us to the Obere-stadt Aussicht. Baedeker, so the common-Dante said, pronounced this the finest view on the Capuzinberg. The Aussicht is 682 feet above the river and discloses the Fortress, the City, and the Hochstauffen, Untersberg and Berchtesgaden mountains.

The sun was setting as we hurried through the stone portal into the Lienzergasse street. Then we walked "part way" home with Schwester and The Betrothed.

I got two Valentines today, one from each, both painted by the Betrothed. Hers was a portrait of Schwester, with a bunch of Edelweiss, or some sich, in her hand. Schwester's was a head of Mozart, who was born here.

Salt of the Earth

ISCHL (Salzkammergut) March 17, 1917 (a holiday in Austria)—Sence the common-Dante went away, our guards is mostly ladies. Isn't that fine?

The Chermin is a great language, of depth and power, but is s'prizin different at several p'intz from our free and easy United States. Hell in Anglo-Saxon is a bad word, or at best a bad place; it is one of the finest words in the Chermin language. Yesterday the sun come out sudden and lit up a dark and shadowed co'ner of the Traunsee, and I overheered the Countess in command ejaculate: "Hell!" Then I remembered that Hell in Chermin translated meaus bright and clear. She doesnt look like a lady who'd zwear wantonly. Our old commandant is sumwers on a sekert mission, and they's probly big doin's ahead; mebbly he'llows to capture Venice; a Venetian (Venediger) mit us says Venice jest now is long on gondolas & palaces und short on tourists, tips and home folks. He'llows it might surrender to 'Merica

but not to Austr'y. He's a voter in New York, and is for Hughes, and Chauncey M. Depew. He aint got nawthin agin the King of Italy, but didn't cal'late on gittin captured when he volunteered.

Salzkammergut is a prettier name in its own speech than in United States. It means Treasury Salt Reserve.

They's one other Merican prisoner here A lady guard slapped him for speakin of Dr. Dumb-Bells (Dumba.) The lady was repo'ted, but I kaint blame her much. Such a pun would of made 'Theodo' Hook nervous. Fired at her by a supposedly friendly pow', too.

Salt is a Government monopoly in Austr'y, and gives the official a dead mortal clutch on not the folks alone but the cattle, sheep, hogs, horses, deer, bear, potatoes and celery. They all got to have salt.

They run the salt thro pipe lines for quite a ways like Standard Oil. Fur instance here at Ischl don't make it up but run it down to Ebensee at the head of the Traunsee, a beautiful lake—in spring. This provinz is small, comparin with Salzburg: 250 square (most of them is crooked) miles, and not mo' than 20,000 people, 'The scenery is grand but not thick. In that small space is two fine lakes: the Traunsee and Atterod See, and one little one, the Amsee. They marched us up the lake from Gmuenden. Off to the left is the

Traunstein, not quite six thousand foot high, but all-fired steep. Winter befo' last Peggy read to me 'bout Bayard Taylor hoofin it (or climbin) up the Traunstein [Views Afoot]. We see a town of Traunstein on the map, on the aidg of Bavaria, 'bout seventy-five miles from here, and cal'lated that was the place; but I 'llow this here is it. In back farther is the Wildekogl a thousand foot higher; also the Erlakogl, the Gruenberg and Kleine Sonnstein—all nice for tourists after the Wah.

When Gen. Sam Cary spoke at Springfield in '76 he denounced the Republican party for taxin' salt, and Jedge Purdy, in a front seat, laffed sneerinly. Sam looks fierce an' repeats:

“——Taxes yer salt—sugar, I mean——
Then he takes a drink of water and chokes. He'd been a Democrat Lieutenant Governor of Ohio, and allers choked on water. He turns and stage-whispers to the cheerman:

“Which is it they tax—salt or sugar?”

“Danged if I know”—which made it wusser.

Them Italians is awful at keepin things to theirselves—had Cortina since last May, and I didn't know it. Our Countess says they kin feed them remittance invalids, and welcome.

I spect they guv up Cortina without a fight to save the new hotel, and the Italians kept away from Trent to save the old Cathedrals. A grain of salt, even a spooful, may sift in this.

A Horsetrader Hero

Wot fur they sent us to Innsbruck I dunno unless it got out that we were plottin to escape and go to see the Oppery in Vienna. Grub may be skeerce, and biznez not as usual, but Vienna has got to hev Oppery.

I fears one of my cherished dreams is busted that my stately figger won't never adorn the Ringstrosse, even for an hour.

To git to Innsbruck from Ischl we had to come past Munich, where we had the choist of two railroads part way up. We were paraded thro Munich like we was at Salzburg, mebbby to show the city what kind of hoss-styles they air up against. Munich is a fine city, and lots of ladies dressed beautiful was out to 'dmire us. [Since the foregoing, Munich authorities have forbidden women to wear fine clothes on the street.] I was pow'ful sore they didn't invite us to visit the Pinnakothek, which is one of four or five greatest art collections. They wan't much danger of us kerryin none of the great Paintins off.

As I was sayin, we had to cut acrost Bavaria

Bavaria, but that wan't no trouble, bein ez how the two kentries is on good terms now; they didnt even paw over our baggage at the front-ear of Ostry; cause why our trunks had gone astray, so we hadn't none to speak of.

The poet Campbell lived and died in the delusion that the Battlefield of Hohenlinden was right on the river Isar so they jest rolled the dead bodies into the river and floated them down to the Crematory like they used to float logs down the Skookumchuck. Hohenlinden is full twenty mile from the river Isar, which comes no nearer than the city of Munich.

On Linden, when the sun was low
All bloodless lay the untrodden snow,
And dark as winter was the flow
Of Iser [Isar] rolling rapidly.

The fact is Hohenlinden is as fur from any river or any railroad as any town kin be nowadays. The Hohen has some to do with that. Like Bethany (W.)Va. or Damascus, O., Hohenlinden was quite a place before railroads was drempt of and thot the railroads had to come to it even if they had to climb a ladder to git to their high and healthful site.

Andy Johnson opposed vigorous the chartering of the first railroad in Tennessee because it would put the six-horse teamsters out of business. When the railroads had got to goin good, the teamsters was doin' more business than ever. Our train passed within nine mile

of Hohenlinden. It is out on the perairy most due east of Munich. If there is a crick, spring or Water-Hole anywers near, taint shown on a recent map. Nobody could of fit a battle where it would do less damage to abutting property. Gen. Moreau commanded here for Napoleon, and the Little Corporal hissself could of hardly done better. He was jealous after that of Moreau.

Up to 1813 Bavaria fit for the French against Austrry, and there was cordial hatred between Bavaria and the Tyrol, whose people had ever displayed friendship and loyalty to the family of Hapsburgh.

One of the two railway lines from Munich to Innspruck is twenty miles longer than is the other. I kaint see how the longer line kin do biznez, as the longest is only 109 mi. But the short line is mo' Hilly and picturesque, which enables the longer line to keep even by faster running.

Mo' towns is on the long route. I got a good look at the Tegernsee, a favored haunt of the Empress Elizabeth of Ostry. King Ludwig II was drowned here.

Two blacksmiths was called to the colors, so I'm a-doin their work. They don't watch me cloast, relying on professional ethics to charge wot's right, or wot's plenty. Prices is low, comparin with Blue Eye.

I repaired a j'int in the Hof Kirche, where Emperor Max. I. has a fine stattoo. He died

1519. He don' git as much notice as Andreas Hofer, humbly born but of romantic fame, who was a shipper of horses and kep' a wine shop. The latter occupied the corner store on the one best street of Innsbruck, in the same building with the hotel that Andreas, and his father before him, also kept. Sich a store, in a similar location (situation is a better word) in Cleveland, O., or Oakland, would rent for \$200 a month. In Innsbruck, owing to the low cost of living, it 'd bring in less 'n \$9. Each of the Hofers sold wine at wholesale and retail. Horses they never re-tailed (though Andreas, so Napoleon asserted, would once in a while paint a zebra for a Hamburg menagerie-supply house)—horses they "shipped" in droves or in bands rather to Italy. The Inn valley is noted for good horses. Innsbruck (Inn's Bridge) has been called the second most beautiful town of the German Alps, Salzburg first: fights not big for the Iselberg are held in the Exerciser Place.

Hofer was born 1767 at St. Leonhard, in the Passeyr valley, near Meran; he led a corps of riflemen operating against Napoleon on the shores of Lake Garda in 1796; in 1803 helped to organize Tyrol's militia. In 1805 Napoleon transferred Tyrol bodily from Austria to Bavaria. In 1808 Hofer became leader of Tyrol and went to Vienna on invitation of the Archduke John to concert a rising. In 1809 he defeated the Bavarians in three battles near Innsbruck. Two of these were fought on the Iselberg, a big wooded hill just south of town. At school, we

used to say to the other boy, who was often the biggest:

"I dare you out of doors

If he wanted to start a fight. That was the way at the Iselberg. Hofer would gether his Tyrolean warblers and shootzen men on the Berg, then send a Ultimattum to the French and Bavarians at Innsbruck te come up aud fight. If they refused, Hofer's sharpshooters gits busy, men brung up to hit the Chamois or Mountain Sheep standin' on the p'int of a rock acrost a mountain valley several hundred higher than the shootzen man, and fix it so it falls in the psychic, accessible spot. That's as how they always come out.

In one of these battles Hofer wiped the ground with the French under Marshal Lefebvre. Lefebvre was husband of Madame Sans-Gene in What's-His-Name's play. Madame was Napoleon's wash-lady, laundered his shirt and unspeakables when he was a poor young man. His bill was shocking small, yet he was owing her nearly thirty-five francs when his ship come in and he was given command of the Army of Italy.

She never did his laundry free: that wasn't her idee of biznez; but she gave him things to eat and scolded him awful for starvin' hisself. After he got to be Emprer she scolded him oftener yet, and slapped him a few times. The

Emprer made Lefebvre Duke of Dantzic for cleanin' up in 1806 what was left of the Prussians after Jena. Lefebvre didnt use his title a great deal.

One day a stranger accosted him:

"Is the Duke of Dantzic accessible? "

"Duke of Dantzic? That must be that d—near-sighted Russian that was hangin 'round headquarters yesterday."

He would of answered to Lefebvre.

Hofer was elected Oberkommandant of Tyrol and for six weeks he resided in the Schloss Tyrol. Hofer wore whiskers. Then for the third time Tyrol was invaded, this time by 40,000 French and Bavarians. Hofer fled, defeated. By the armistice of July 14, Tyrol was given unconditionally to Bavaria.

Emperor Francis sent a chain and medal to Hofer, signifying gratitude. Andreas took it to be encouragement to do more, so broke out again. He was captured by some of Napoleon's Italian soldiers, taken to Mantua, tried at the head of a drum, and shot Feb. 20, 1810.

All the officers who convicted Andreas asked that his life be spared. But Napoleon was pitiless, insisted on something besides Maria Louisa to show for whippin Austry once more.

Endurin them six weeks in Schloss Tyrol, he governed well and fairly. In 1823 his body was returned to Innsbruck, seventeen years before Napoleon's was brought back from Saint Helena. In the Franciscan Church is a fine

statue in marble of Andreas Hofer by Schaller with reliefs by Klieber. The costly and elaborate monument of the Emperor Maximilian, in the center of the nave, surrounded by many (28) colossal statues of "heroic ancestors" and twenty-four reliefs on the sarcophagus have not attracted more attention from tourists than the less sumptuous (the word Baedeker uses) monument to Hofer, with its six Tyrolese binding themselves by an oath over a lowered banner, in relief. These six represent the six districts of Tyrol. On either side are the tombs of two devoted followers: The Capuchin monk Haspinger and Speckbacher the chamois-hunter.

The Franciscan cathedral is called by home folks the Hofkirche.

Andreas was the first horsetrader I call to mind whose counterfeit has been handed down in marble, and who wa'n't never accused of cheating.

Healthy Meran

I wor puzzled when they told me to pack up and go to Meran, which is a hunderd mile the way we come, but cal'late now it wor ez how I'm too handsome, too interestin to the ladies, bnt when five or six women get jealous, what is a man to do? The three weeks I was at Innsbruck the day patrolwoman on our block was changed six times. They all would look in and smile as they marched past. Ladies 'dmire a muscled, brawny arm. One guv me a bunch of vi'lets when I quit work at six; the nex day a new one come on; her second day she left a can of peaches in the shop by mistake; that night two Italian blacksmiths arriv, and I was sent fur to Meran. My guard looked as if she was going to cry, but said that Meran is healthy.

From 6 a. m. to 7 the Hauptman taught the ladies how to shoot—they's mostly too all-fired accurit to suit us prizners—was all I didn't like.

We laid over a day at Boatzen, to see train

after train of troops pass, headed, I 'llow for sumwers in Italy. Boatzen is twiset bigger 'n Meran but not so much to see, but is right smart mo' important militarily, stragetically, and commercialistically. It is ravishingly situate at the confluence of the Talfer and the Eisack rivers. The Eisack falls into the Esch (Adige) three mile below town, but that junction don't amount to no confluence. I kaint jest onderstand why, but jest this moment it dawns on me mebbly a confluence has to have a seprit valley to back it up. At Coblantz the Moselle and Rhine form a confluence (the town used to be named Confluentia by the old Romans.) If the Rhine is the bigger, mo' famous river, the Moselle and its valley are far mo' important to Coblantz. Like the railroad that ends at Berryville is mo' valne to the town than if it went on to Springfield and Kansas City. The San Joaquin and Sacramento, comin' from opposite directions, have a meeting place but no confluence. They aint no city theh. The Ohio and Mississippi have a confluence at Cairo, but the Missouri jest Jines the Mississippi without no Confluence.

In olden times mo' towns was built in way up high places like Jerusalem than at the lower down Confluences. But when the railroads appeared everybody see that the Confluences had 'em beat. That's ez how Bound Brook, N. J., and Havre de Grace, Md., or Quincy, Mass., each had a railroad fifty year before Jerusalem, which was an important city 800 B. C. or mo'.

Between Sterzing and Brixen, close by Sterzing, is Franzenfeste, armed to the teeth and toenails. It is up 2,460 feet, and is supposed to command both valleys, the Eisack southwest, and the far-famed Pusterthal. I'llow the Italians don't keer fur Franzenfeste, and that them shootin up Toblach was a Faint, or mebbly an attempt at Flankin, rather than tackle her (or is a Fortress him?) in front at a cost that wood stagger humanity, as Oom Paul 'd say.

The Pusterthal is one of the largest valleys of this region, wide enough to farm in several places. It has two rivers. The folks along the Rienz west of Lienz is Chermin, and them on th Drave, east of Lienz, is Slavs.

A couple of mile southwest of Botzen the Eisack jines the Adige, which takes a kink jest above, comes in from the northwest, turns here and runs plum south into Romeo & Juliet's town and on past.

Our road follered the Adige northwest until a mile from Meran, twenty mile from Botzen.

Meran is short for Merry Ann or Mary-Ann. It is the old capital of Tyrol. When Napoleon Bonaparte was young and slim, he cut down to one meal a day to get a copy of Plutarch's Lives. But things got to comin so fast and so easy that he furgit the lessons it learnt him—furgit the dry and crinkly hide of a buffalo that the Seleucian spread on a flat little piece of ground in front of Alexander to show how when he went to one corner the other 'd tip up—intimatin that his empire was already too

big, 'thout waitin to take them in. Napoleon made sumwers along here the boundary 'tween Italy and Bavaria, teetotaly obliterating Tyrol. In 1813, when the Tyroleans heered that the Russian corner had tipped up on Napoleon, they riz.

These bones shall rise again.

And purty soon Bavaria shook him, too, bein' ez how he'd got so many of their men-folks Slayed. On a house in the Rennweg is a tablet ez how Andreas Hofer spent there his last night in the Tyrol.

Fur some reason, Tyrol was allers great friends with the Hapsburg family. One of its greatest ladies—I used to know her name as I do Peggy's. but I disremember now, used to live a good sheer of her time at Schloss Tyrol (ax-scent on the roll.) After the war ye kin inspect the castle fur seven cents ef they don't h'ist the price, as they's libel to, to pay fur the War. Schloss-Tyrol is hard walkin-distance from town—some three mile. I cal'late the Italians won't try to come here, on account of the invalids and cure-houses, probly pertected, like Cortina, by the Gold Cross, like the Red Cross pertects the sick soldiers. They'll push to Vienna probly up past Goritzzy, Laibach and on northeast if they kin. These town aint so much elevation as I reckoned. Botzen is 880, Meran 1050: Meran lies cozily sheltered iu the Passer valley, at the foot of a vine-clambered

mountain, the Kuechelberg. The Adige is half a mile from town, at its neerdest, where the Passer Confluences with it.

Ez the lady said, Meran makes a special of bein' healthy. It has a whey cure in Spring. By the time grapes is ripe the invalids is tired of whey. The grape cure which they have in the fall (ottum) is also renowned. Meran, as have all German and Austrian towns, levies a visitors' tax of one florin (four-bits 50 cents) a week. Well folks have to pay this, same as invalids. No strangers exempt except prizners of War. English and Himericans buck awful at this visitor' tax, and allers did. That's wot made the Vienna Exposition of 1873 a financial failure. It cost like Sam Hill to get there, and the visitors' tax was the last straw. If you git out of town withiu three days you are not taxed. Quite a number got out. The English mostly knowed about this tax, which fact never diminished their holler one bit, if it did lack the element of surprise, which was the keynote of the typical Himerican roar. Quoth a guest, a veteran General of U. S. A.:

"Don't you want visitors here? "

"It is immaterial (Das macht nicht aus)."

"Then why do you solicit travel custom?"

"That is the innkeepers, this is Guvverment.

On the right bank of the Passer (Pass-Air) is the Gisela Promenade, a fancy modern name

for the old Wassermauer or bulwarks (a entomology of Boulevards. In more 'n one city the old ramparts afforded the most available place for an evening Ramble, and in time Boulevard come to mean Ramble-Place.

No smoking is or was allowed on this Promenade, or on the piazza of the Cure-House, or in the Cure-Garden up-stream. The Passer is a frolicsome river, and the Promenade is useful still sometimes as a levee or bulwark, The official name of the Cure-Garden is the Untere Wintere Anlage.

On the left bank is a contrast. The Band plays in front of the Cure-House on the right bank in the middle of the mild winter-days; it plays both Spring and Fall on the left bank, in the Untere und Obere Sommer Garden, only in Winter does the Band play for the Invalids and in the Under and Over Garden the folks drink beer and smoke twenty-five hours a day, ef ye kin save that much daylight. In the Under and Over Garden, folks is drinkin wine and beer while the invalids on the right bank is drinkin whey. Ye aint aliowed, in times of peace even, to drink mo' beer than ye kin hold, yet ye kin drink beer on both banks of the picturesque Passer. But on the left bank ye are not obstructed by signs

Smokin Verboten

That's where the left bank has the right bank

beat, and they put it onto the right bank by havin' an under and over garden both.

Meran has jest one long biznez street, with arcades (unter den Lauben) on either side—handy to hitch horses in front of. Some comes in from valleys on horseback, mo' on Shanks' mare, special since the War started.

Acrost the Passer, dividin' up with the under and over gardens, are the two villages of Unter Mais and Ober Mais. It is cooler in Ober Mais than in Meran or Unter Mais.

Most folks thinks that Schloss Tyrol took its name from the kentry or provinz, but jest opposit is true. The Tyrol took its name from the Schloss. It is on the northwest slope of the Kuechelberg, round the bend from Meran. From its windows are several prospects of wondrous beauty. From its elevation of 2142 feet, one can see for twenty miles adown the Adige, with the porphyry mountains bordering the picture on the eastern side. Westward is the rich Meran valley and the Falls of the Adige, alias Esch, where the river drops 600 foot. The Tom Jasper even couldn't git past such a current, but a hydroplane could make it.

The hauptmann liked my shoein' his horse, and sent me to the Toell (divide) and the Falls. The valley is like a great orchard of walnuts, chestnuts and grape-vines, enclosed by beautiful porphyry mountains. It's Spring now—the girls of the Tyrol, and the orchards, is bloomin.

The valley of Meran is thick-settled, dotted

by many villages, before the War inhabited by happy and prosperous folks, as folk go in this-old Europe.

Meran and Schloss Tyrol, even more than Innsbruck, and the Passeyr valley, have been regarded as the nucleus from which grew the Tyrol, from which it became a Land, Country, a political entity.

RAUCHEN VERBOTEN!

Death or Liberty

La Libertad es uno de los mas preciosos dones que los cielos dieron a los hombres * * Pôr la libertad, asi como por la honra, se puede e debe aventurar la vida * *” [which means they’s nawthin like Liberty, and one ought to resk his life fur it.]

“Cato learnt Greek at eighty.” So when I come acrost the stormy ’tantic and the balmy Mediterranean, I brung along a Spanish exercise book to rest up on when I git tired sted-yin Italian and Chermin: the above is the first pernouncin sample in it.

Spite of the glorious scenery and nice folks, I bin frettin right smart to get that key to the oats-bin at Borgo back to wheli it b’longs. At Innsbrnck I planed to ’scape by follerin up the river Inn, past Landeck and Nauders into the upper Engadine in Switzerland. A lady told me the folks up there is pow’ful friendly to Austrý, onlike some of the Sweitzers, around

Zurich and Geneva, who stand in with Italy and France; besides, that key belongs to Count Cadorna. So I didn't go.

The Engadine is a valley sixty mile long, less 'n a mile wide on the avveridge, part in Tyrol, but most in Switzerland, the Inn need its middle all the way, headed up southwest, past places with Chermin names at one end, Italian names (for Sweitzer places) at the other.

The truth is, endurin this War, all nations has been a-doin their best to stand in with the (genuine) Republic of the Alps, the Mountain Land of Tell.

[Erratum:—Hofer wan't in command of the Tyroleans when they "wiped the ground" with Marshal Lefebvre at the Pass of the Sachsenklemme, near Sterzing. The monk, Haspinger, and Speckbacher, the chamois hunter, were in command. Haspinger was a fighting parson. Later Brownlow, of Tennessee, preacher, gorilla, Governor and Senator, was called that.

The English has been corruptin the western Swiss, sendin wounded officers there to board, but the Engadine is too cold for such in Winter and Spring, but is fine for tuberklyosis, which I haven't got.

Somehow I kaint git no map at Innsbruck or Meran. One day a soldier 'bout 77 year old come and got me to go to Trafoi to do some two days' work. His nose was ou-common red

fur this kentry, which made me suspicious. We hed to hoof it the last twelve mile: horses and motors is both infrequent now: wheh used to be sixty hitched along that one Meran street were commonly only four or five this Spring. We left Meran befo' the sun riz, but had to go slow, ez how the old hero could only toddle. I offered to kerry his gun. He bucked (balked) but after four kill 'im meet 'er he let me kerry it except in villages and twice we met officers. He has two sons and a daughter in U. S. A.

We lit out plum acrost the Adige valley, $1\frac{1}{2}$ mile wide here, and the one swampy spot this part of the valley, made so by the Trafoi Bach or Brook of Trafoi, which is a 'mighty deep swift-runnin brook this time o' year.

Then the road begins to climb, and climbs steady nearly all the way to the summit of the Stelvio pass, up 9,045 feet. Like most Italian names Stelvio has a Chermin alias, the Stilfser Joch. This is claimed to be the highest keridge road in the world, or was, some years sence. The street in Pasco (Peru, not Wash.) is 14000 feet up in the sky, but isn't nawthin like so good a road-bed as the Stelvio; all the street traffic in Pasco is llama-back.

[More than a year follerin the above, Kaiser Karl, of Austr'y, in his motor-car, is reported to have made the seventeen miles from the Pass to Brad, with 101 curves (mostly safe ones) in eleven minutes, hotly pursued by an Italian motorcycle squadron. The road falis 6005 foot

in them seventeen miles. He passed Trafoi, half-way down, and three-quarters of the drop or declination, at over a hundred-mile clip; he wan't captured, but danged near it.]

The Trafoier Bach or brook looks like fishin'; it makes a big noise, a regler brawler—several steep falls. I'dmired the big show of snow mountains off to the left: Monte Livrio, 10,470; Nagler Spitze, 10,685; Pleisshorn, 10,312; Nas-horn Spitze, 9,442; Trafoi Eiswand, 11,240; the black Madatsch Spitze, 10,174; Kristallen Spitzen, 11,300; Ortler, 12,812; Geisterspitze, 11,355. Ortler looms huge, but you kaint see his highest peak till you git to Franzenhoe, six mile above Trafoi, and 2,080 foot higher.

Near Trafoi, at the base of Ortler, are Three Holy Springs. I meant to visit them, but got a chanst to git back to Italy.

Some of the bends in the big road itself is dizzy fur me; but the views is fine; my escort hadn't no eyes fur anything but gittin a drink. At Trafoi he got b'ilin, p'intin his gun at everybody but me. He goes to sleep on the back stoop. Purty soon the hotel lady comes out, ties his hands behind him, looks significkant at me, and takes his gun into the hotel. At dusk he was snorin' good, and I walks off up the big road, keepin in the shadder like a U.S.A. policeman:

“Make way for Libery,” I said——

“Make way for Liberty!” and fled.

Ortler is the biggest and tallest mountain in Austrý, and has quite a fine collection around him, in the so-called Ortler district.

Stelvio pass is the boundry between Austria and Lombardy, which is Italy. Half a mile north the southern boundry of Switzerland intersects Tyrol's west-side line-fence.

I'llow the surveyors made a joggle. On San Pablo avenue, Oakland, the east and west (E.S.E. and W.N.W.) streets miss each other in crossing the avenue, by almost half a block. Fur instance coming to'rds the bay down 23d street, a stranger kaint tell whether to turn to the right or the left at the avenue to get 23d west of the avenue. You see those dignified, genial Spanish C.E.'s surveyed at one try only wot land they wanted to use that same day. If somebody found an error, a C.E. 'd say: "I'll look up the notes, and fix it manana (Spanish fur tomorrow.)" The street got built up along the old wagon-road that parallels or meanders the bayshore (quite a ways inland) befo' manana came. (Oakland, Cal.; 44 Oaklands in U.S.A. but only one ever under Spain.

At Franzenhohe, five mile above Trafoi, was when I first see the top of Ortler. The moon, herself on-visible, shone on his highest peak. Grand. Magnifique! Hermoso! Bello! Schoen! I sneaked past the Italian guard-house at the summit at midnight, an' dawn was jest breakin

when a sentry at the aidge of Bormio, 21-mile from Trafoi, calls out shrill:

"Chi va la?"

I walk up to him big as life and bold as brass, an' say:

"Wie geht's?"

A absent-mind error. He tells me I'm a spy, which scandalizes me, and I pertests vigorous. They hurries me to Sondrio, 40-mile in a auto, and co't sets at once.

The finest scenery is on the Tyrol side of the Pass, but the best roads is on the Italian side.

In place of the usual Drum-Head, they hez a little table. The jedge advocate he tells em, in Italian, I'm a Welsh renegade that's been a hangin round Munich fur ten year. I shows the key, and tells 'em it belongs to the oats-bin at Borgo di Val Sugana. (They's five Borgos in Italy and one in Hungairy.) I made a closin' pathetic spiel in Himerican, begs 'em to telly-graft my friend Francesco, Marchese di Mirandola (the Mar-Casey). But when they found Schwester's picture, that settled it. In some ten minutes a guard tells me I'm to be shot at midnight or right soon after that hour.

It was a disap'intment to me. I'd expected to be received with open arms when I got back to Italy. My Italian words fail me in critical

junctions, in crises, so to speak. "Oh, might my grave at home, in Carthage be ! "

Thus Monica, and died in Italy.

In '67 a new girl come to Springfield from Cincinnati. Hoke Tucker and me was introduced to her at a picnic on White river. Hoke axes me,

"Kin ye swim ? "

Fool-like, I says I kin, the girl smiles, and I feels like a hero. Next day Hoke says:

"Let's go swimmin."

He strikes out plumb acrost the river, but gits cramps and goes down. I starts to rescue him, but git ox-cited, the current takes me down-river, and I goes down twiset. I thinks a hull cyclopedy in a sho't time. I recalls thinkn cam-like:

"Hoke's drowned, and it'll be awful long befo' they come to look for us good swimmers.

Jest then I comes up for the last go-down. I see a tree branch at a bend, and grabs it (Ye kaint drownd a boy, ez is borned to be shot—fur a spy.)

I feels much the same tonight—so much I want to write I kaint find a place to begin. I writ a list of folks ez owes me, addressed to the Mar-Casey, long o' this. Don't waste money

on a tombstone. I prefer to be commemorated
[makes me think of Camembert] by my literary
work alone.

Not marble nor the gilded monuments
Of princes shall outlive this pow'ful rime.

And when I die, I'll leave to you
My little stock and farm—
My house, my barn, my little all——
And all the little chickens in the garden."

P. S.—Hoke he got out, too. I feel hungry.

Free in Italy

It wor jest six minutes past ten by the wrist-clock a lady at Udine guv me fur Christmas when I hears a key turnin gentle in the do'. I rises perlite to see if it's time to go and git shot. Instd of the fierce-mustached guard, the lovely face of a most beautiful lady, with great, deep, dark blue eyes, pertrudes jest inside, and a shapely white hand beckons warninly. I has a hunch she is the wife of the common Dante.

"Tachaty!" musical and low. "Non parlate forty. [Be quiet.]

She slips a box of chocolate chips into my hand, and p'int's down a dark and shaded lane, 'most kivered with vines and blooms, through the grounds in rear of the palazzo. It turns to say "Thankye mum," but she puts a finger acrost her Cupid's bow of a mouth, ez a sign to say it not, douses her lantern and disappears. About ten rod down the lane or path I see the moonlight strike a distandt mounting, so I curls up under a tangle of vines and briers. Half hour later the' was a 'sturbance in the castle or barracks: purty soon a blood-

hound come past down the path, follered by three men. I used to expect a bloodhound is the fiercest, most dangersome dog they is; but couldn't, when I come to look and think one over, reconcile his big, dark, mild, liquid eye (and droopin ears) with my preconceptions. A deerhound looks six times ez fierce, and he is that fierce, too. And yet—a bloodhound kin beat all follerin and findin ye, if he isn't in at the death, but jest stalls around and weeps, while the deerhound chaws ye up.

From 1864 to 1876, Uncle Tom's Cabin was a legitimate drama; from '77 to '99 they kep' multiplyin the Topsyies and bloodhounds until the U. T. C. companies all went broke, and the price of bloodhounds come down agin to something like the ante bellum price.

It's the b-l-u-d in bloodhound that skeers.

This bloodhound didn't stop or notice me except to wag his tail as he went past, so I know he's a friend of mine. At my trial he was the only person in the room that looked at me friendly. He leads em off to'rds Austr'y.

'Bout 2 a. m., all quiet, the moon hid behind a mounting, and I lit out, keepin in the shadder all I kin, and usin short-cuts past danger p'int's and thro the bresh.

The blue sky of Italy was turnin to azure when my skeert eye see a auto, comin rapid. I dodged into the bresh. I felt awful shamed to be hidin that-a-way like a thief. The keer

stopt almost opposit the rock I laid behind. A big young man in a drab-green overcoat hollers loud and cheerful:

“It is I—Francesco—the Mar-Casey.”

I come out sneakin-like, and we whirls off to Colico on the lake of Como, some fifteen mile, in twenty minutes. Sence I rid in the airyplane I don't mind, and it beats walkin all to smash. I wor 'most three hours comin ten mile and a half. At Colico he throws the reins to the shover, tells him to phone my escape to Sondrio, then take the auto to Milan.

Francesco and I ketch the early steamboat fur Lecco, “jest fur the boat-ride,” says he. He p'int out Bellagio, at the p'int of the peninsula that splits the lake in two. At Lecco, a town busy makin things, we take the train fur Monza and Milan.

Milano has over half a million folks, twiset as many as Genoa. Naples hez mo' folks, but Milan has the mostest money. That 9-mile-long tunnel thro the Alps [St. Gotthard] did n't hurt her biznes none: it guv her a pull at Zurich and Luzerne an' round theh that stood the Allies sence in good stead, and holp a lot to make Zurich much the biggest Sweitzer City and let the Toy Makers git out theh painted Elephants and Tigers and Mountain Sheep to

make the Yankee children's Christmas day. It was a right slim Christmas fur Toys last year [1915]. I 'llow that's ez how Italy declared War agin Austrys and not Germany.

The 12½-mile Simplon Tunnel is also a fine thing fur Milan. It taps the valley of the Rhone, and lets the metropolis of Lombardy into a big trade with France and Switzerland. They tell me that most kinds of freight that used to go via the St. Gotthard go now by the Simplon, which is 40 per cent longer but much lower and easier to git to.

Them Alpine valleys all pours things into Milan's lap like spouts from a granary or from a threshing machine.

Edward Everett, in his funereal oration for Dan'l Webster, said:

"Your long rows of quarried granite may crumble to the dust. The corn fields of yonder villages (p'intin off to'rds Concord and Lexington and the Green Mountains and No'th Lancaster, wher they raise cows and story books and 'mighty little co'n) jest ripenin to the sickle—may, like the plains of stricken Lombardy, be trodden into bloody sands by the maddening wheels of artillery. It was given to but a limited number to listen to the living voice of Dan'l Webster, and they will never listen to it again; but the wise teachings, the

grave admonitions and patriotic exhortations that fell from his tongue will be garnered and treasured up in the memory of millions."

Them plains of Lombardy aint stricken much, this war. The Austrins kaint git past the last line of mountings.

That 12½-mile Simplon tunnel railway kin haul longer trains owin to lower grades, not hevvin to climb so high up the mounting to git into the tunnel.

LaScala, the famous oppery house of Milan, is the largest theatre in Italy, barrin one in Naples. It aint open much late years, xcept when a Himerican prima donna subsidizes La Scala to git to show how fine she kin sing.

Byzantinism Abating

"FRANCESCO," I says, "I learnt a new word sence I come to Europe."

"I'd suppose you'd learn several."

"I mean a English word—Byzantinist."

"What is a Byzantinist ? "

"A Byzantinist is a Chermin with on-due or exaggerated respeck fur authority, or fur pot-entates or things established, and reverence, I guess, for 'ficials and sich-like.

"I'd never guess that in the world, or how to connect such a cult with Constantinople's predecessor, Byzantinm."

"By the time Byzantium had come to be the Capital of the degenerated Roman empire, the Roman soldiery and civics [cives] had lost the rugged independence of early times and come to be classified by posterity as chicken-hearted sycophants, or so they would be, later on. The bold peasantry that had once peopled the Alban

hilltops had no word or name for Byzantinist or pussy-footer.

An ancient name for a modern species of servility, Mr. McCann, but why exclusively German?

"Some German scholar-radical detected the likeness and applied the name to what he deemed an evil. When a German scholar coins a word it is apt to be a long one—he builds it on top or jines it onto the end of an old-established word already in good standing. Greeley or Webster would of teachd Americans a mo' condensed, a short word.

To make a short story long, I should define, translate Byzantinism as the antipode of Lazy Majesty (lese majeste). Befo' this war Lazy Majesty was a crime in the Chermin Empire; few of the many cases were prosecuted, however. Prosecution didn't pay, and the trial usually netted a considerable loss of dignity to the Kaiser and the Government. In war such laws are usual mo' strictly enforced, but the Kaiser has been very indulgent to that crowd. Mebby he needed the help of every one of 'em.

"I think it mo' likely he regarded as unsafe to stir up the animals much."

A lady at Meran lent me a paper that says a society has been organized at Darmstadt or at some town up that way to suppress or least-ways mitigate Byzantinism. They 'llow it's got clean out of bounds in Doychland.

A movement like that shows that even the Kaiser recognizes that one may have too much

of a good thing.

"They don't cal'late to do much till after the war—jest git officers elected, and on-finished business done, and mebbby a barmycide banquet at Darmstatt or sumwers.

The Markis interdoosed me to a Censor at Milan, and asked wot is a Byzantinist. The Censor didd't know, and put it up to me. I splained, and added: "I allers been a Byzantinist and didn't know it. Ef I do repperzent the ablest periodical in the world, I never let on. Some cor'spondents takes too much space fur their liitle troubles with authorities and ficials, but I never says nawthin—leastways till I gits out of their reach.

"You didn't 'splain Byzantinism at Meran?

"I hadn't took time to think about it—too much society.

"Of course Italy isn't like our kentry. I never heered tell of boodlers in Italy. It's difficult to evince genuine on-due respeck fur a boodler.

The Censor strokes his moustache, musing.

"One beauty of the Irishman," I says, is he will often do mö' fur glory than fur boodle, in a crisis affordin any show fur promotion.

This is Decoration Day [1916] but it aint strictly enforced in Italy. Any'ow I aint been decorated yit, but the Mar-Casey 'llows I'll git a order of the first-class fur rescuin Col. Count — who fell wounded under a hail of Austrian

bullets, cat-ridges and shells that swept the on-protected, narrer canyon: They was a open patch of about two city blocks the Italians hed to cross, without no kivver, and you bet they took it on the run, haid down like men facin a Ozark sleet storm. 'Bout fifty of the batalyen was left on the ground on that little patch. It was the 19th of May, and the Osterrins had druv us fur a couple days percedin. By special favor, owin to my Byzantinism, I wor settin behind a rock, on the near side of the little vale, takin in the scenery, dodgin the splinters from rocks and Osterrin shells, an' peepin out at the forward-flyin brave. I'd lost my writin material, so didnt't write nawthin down, an' hev to trust to memory. Off over my left shoulder the breeze ruffled old Mount Adamello's snowy mane, and the [11,637] mountain hisself seems to look me in the eye and inquire:

"Who will resk his life to rescue a shot and sufferin brother Human bein?

I thinks mebbey ez how God saved me in the airyplane and in Sondrio's dungeon, maybe he'll pull me out now. Anyhow, I'm goin on sixty-seven." I waits a second till it lets up a little, then scoot, like we used to light out from the barn to the house in a Mizזורry storm of thunder, lightnin—and water. Ws'd run in the load or part load of hay, rocin with the on-comin storm loadin' till the last second. By a struggle we get the big barn doors shet inspite

of the tornado-breeze. Then the rain comes "in sheets." Nothin' to read and no umbrell in the barn, no coat and no dry shirt till Sunday. We toss up a pitchfork-handle to see who dives under the rain fur readin-matter. I finds the Colonel, slings him on my shoulder, and gits him somehow behind the rock. He is now recoverin' satisfactory. He offered me his best horse, but I declined, bein' ez how I'm an airyplanist.

I was shot in my wrist-clock, skinnin my arm up quite a bit. The Colonel got another bullet in his projectin laig, but didn't seem to mind.

The fight was at the upper end of the Val Sarca, which some call four valleys. Alle Sarche is the main p'int or metropolis of the first valley or j'int (first from its mouth); Stenico of the second, which runs northwest, then north; the last j'int, which runs west, is called Val di Genova, and is narrow, wild and purty, but badly shot up now. The Osterrins has been givin us Hail Columby fur some time, but we 've retook all the ground they gained.

Adamello (11,635) is on our left, Pressenella 11,686 on our right (north); Val Genova in between—forty mile on a bee-line from Trent, but most a million miles follerin the roads and cart-tracks. Round hyeh is Upper Judycaria (Giudicaria): Lower Judycaria is down by Stenico. We come in via Riva, at the head of Lake Garda. Another Riva (comparative unimportant) is at the head of Lake Como.

A Chatelaine of Udlne

When I see that some one had pied or dis-trybuted a page of my forthcomin book, I was skeert. Kin it be possible that some Eu-rope-ian Anarchist groop hez took offense and sent a Censor to Himerica?

I'm 'stonished so many folks is livin in Eu-rope, special befo' they took to killin' 'em off this time. Now take Doychland and Italy—You'd be s'prised at the amount of folks, and the big sheer of land that aint arrowble. Some parts of Germany is mo' mountainious than the Ozark kentry. Both peoples takes to big famblys. It stands to reason they got to emigrate or manufacture. And they got to sell part of thein factry product abroad. Wheat and cattle got to have room. Ye kaint make two blades of grass grow wher they's only space for one. That's ez how the mountainious provinz of Germany and Ostry is thicker-settled than the wheat-growin plains of Hungairy

and Prooshy. Fur instance, the Toymakers of Germany, Ostry and Switzerland lives almost unanimous in mountain-deestricks. They's right smart of mountings most round this part hyeh of the Isonzo valley, most all the way to Goritzzy. The Isonzo valley is comparative-narrow in spots—I mean in places—and from a militia standp'int the Osterins deserves credit fur the way they hez placed theh artillery. It's been mo' than a year sence the Italians hez bin middlin close to Goritzzy. It may be quite a spell yet befo' they git in. [Gorizia surrendered in August, 1916, following.] I 'llow mebbby they'd got in quicker if the kentry was leveler.

It was one of the warm latest days of May when I come to the tunnel adj'inin the Isonzo, six or seven mile from Goritzzy. They couldnt dig this one from both ends, ez how the Ostrin shells come too all-fired exact and regler. The daylight of early morn was jest peepin' in the fur end of our tunnel thro a slit in the false, imitation mountain-side the Italians hed riggd up, the common-Dante pulled a string and the Italian big guns on top of our high hill and down stream begun shootin at the Osterrin batteries acrost the river at the rate of Ten Thousand Dollars a minute, and we ran out the j'inted, armored kivered bridge, pontooned to the last ounce, we hed in the tunnel. The sky was that soft, fresh, morning azure one sees so seldom away from Italy, California and Medicine Hat. Sixteen or seventeen airyplanes

and two Zeplins begun droppin bums. Everybody seemed to be gittin busy. The safest place from airypplanes is inside a tunnel. Shell after shell dented the bridge, bum after bum spluttered and 'sploded. Quite a few Italians fell. On the furdur side, the soldiers of Franz Josef fit with on-common-bravery, but the bridg went majestically, sinuously on, like a Twister Cyclone, or a British Tank, or Juggernaut, only not so fast as the first, or so lumbering as the second, or so religious as the third. Moses gittin acrost the Red sea wan't in it, or Napoleon on the bridge at Lodi.

"Mr. McCann," says the General, "would ye like to go to the front end and hitch her to the bank?"

Our smoke-screen or barrage had settled by now already and blotted out the fair light of a sunny first of June. The sun had not yet riz when I liad took a peep through a slit in our canvas make-believe mountain, but the tip-tops of the hills and mountains east and north stood out marvelous-ruddy and clear in the advancin dawn, but by now all was changed almost in the twinklin of an eye, or in the lapse of a few moments, and the valley looked like a London pertickler, the river itself was obscured.

I furgits I'm nootral, and makes a noose in the cable and throws it. After that I has a dim memory of bein trampled over by a rushin

host. I come to proper in a field hospital.

Nawthin but concussion—a bum 'sploded cloast to me.

CHATELAINE OF UDINE

Udine, June 3, 1916.

The common-Dante advises me to take a sho't lay-off which I don't need; concussion aint no kind of a injury. But I didn't mind stoppin a day or two at Udine, bein as how comin down from the Trenteenno I hadn't no time to even call on the lady who guv me her wrist-watch in memory of her husband, who was great fur his liking fur Himericans. He made quite a bit of money in New York some years sence. She aint a truly Contessa or countess, but looks a lot like one, and her Departed left her better fixed financially than most of the bona fidy countesses. I doctored up her driving horse—the only one she had left. She told me today she'd 'bout as leave send her sorella (sister) to the War, but she guv four horses to the Army.

I consoled her, p'intin out ez horses hez to die sometime; and her argyment that horses hadn't nawthin to do with startin the War, and twuz a shame fur them to suffer so, applied jest the same to all the men but a few. Her

husband was one of the first Italians killed in this War. She cried fur him, too.

The perfeshinal veterinarians was all in the Army, all-fired busy, and a friend of her husband asked me to look at her horse. I took quite a bit of pains with him, and won't tell my suspicions—twon't do no good, and he got well. I refused money, and she guv me a watch of her own, not one of her husband's, which shows she hez good taste and knows wot's wot. She's bin a-doin headquarters work sence with the horse, off and on, mostly on.

She received me in the libr'y, at her charmin villa in the sooburbs (I furgit the Italian fur sooburbs) on a quiet, shaded strada or street—one of but a few sich in Udine now. She 'pologized ez how la sala (the parlor) and most of the balance of the house was full of workers or War fixins: this room she kep' jest as il marito left it—it was his stampin-ground when he was home. She turned and looked out a winder fur a little spell, and a tear sneaked on-bidden from her eye. She brightened up quick, and asked me about New York. I 'llowed that wot I didn't know about New York wood most fill a Onabridged; but let her know that Oakland and Frisky is buildin' ships as fast as they kin to replace them as is gittin drownded.

She was quite a picture, as she stood there, in the high lights of early afternoon, the sun-

shine filtered and softened thro the chestnut trees—all in black without a relieving note save the rich coloring of her cheek, and the fairness of her brow and hand. Raven hair, great dark eyes, and dark but sca'cely middlin' heavy eyebrows. She's about five foot tall and medium plump, spite of all her troubles—she said the only thing she likes about livin on rashins it kep' her weight down. She speaks United States good, but chucked in a Italian word, now or then, to tease.

Her husband was sixteen years older, with dark blue eyes, she said.

I had to tell her that her pretty wrist watch had been sackerficed in the cause of Italia irridenta. She didn't look sorry. I said I had cal'lated on takin' it home to Peggy. I 'llowed I'd take the lifeless remains to her, anyhow, en souvenir.

"She'll prize it all the more fur showin her father is a hero," says meh lady, and smiles.

"It was a good little time-keeper," I says.

She guv me her hand in goodbye at the do'. "I hope yon'll come to see me again."

"If the Mar-Casey has leisure, we both may."

In and Out of Asiago

Count Cadorna is yankin the troops off the Isonzo and piling em into the Sette Comuni and round theh, south of the Val Sugana, to meet the great Austrian offensive. Considerin the mountain country surroundin it in all directions, the Sette Comuni is comparative-level and so is fit over often. They aint no disguisin the fact our folks has been druv quite a ways, owin mostly to mo' pow'ful artillery—and mo' of it. The Ostrins advanced upon a line thirty miles long, reaching from Rovereto on the Adige, northeastward to the cheemas [cimas] or precipices that p'int off the south boundary of Val Sugana. Them 7,000-foot cheemas is most as fierce as the 10,000-foot mountings. Two or three sharp, jagged curves in the line. On this line the Osterrins had gethered up 350,000 men and 2400 cannon, a lot of them cannon were big guns, too: they made the biggest showin of artillery sence creation, outside of France at this present time. They was two big naval guns set up on the Cost' Alta, near the left of the thirty-mile

line, that throwed shells into Asiago, eleven miles southeast, and hit the spot 'most every time, or danged close to it.

I leave for Asiago tomorrow. As I said on page 11, it is the chief town of the Sette Comuni, a high table-land extending from within a few miles of Trent southeast almost to the city of Vicenza. The Tredici (Thirteen) Comuni, southwest of the Seven, similarly reach almost to Verona. The Sette comprise seven towns and villages—Asiago, Rottero, Roanna, Gallio, Foza, Enego, San Giacomo di Lusiana, and the half-brother communities of Campese, Campolung Otiero, Val Stagna, Val Rovina, Vallonaera, Crosera. Asiago lies from six to ten miles back from the Brenta. Most tourists used to go in from Valstagna, on west bank of the Brenta, a two hours walk of five or six miles through the beautiul Val Frenzela. Valstagna is nearly due east of Asiago. The former has a beautiful site on Brenta's right bank. As a traveler comes down the left bank from the narrow gorge of the Brenta, he crosses upon a wooden bridge at Valstagna. From here on is a road on each side of the river, to Bassano.

Enego is on the Brenta about ten miles N.E. of Asiago. Enego is the next largest town of the seven.

McCrackan reached the Sette Comuni by walking from Levico to Asiago in eight or nine

hours, making a hot and toilsome (midsummer) climb of the Duodici range. The Undici and Duodici ranges is jest south of Val Sugana, paralleling it. Levico is at the western end of Sugana Valley, a few mile northeast from Trent. His route lay thro' the narrow defile of the Val' d'Assa. He described the Sette as "a vast table-land of grass," 3,000 feet above the sea, a table-land among the Mountains, like some vast clearing in the forest." McC's notion of vastness wan't acquired in Argentine or Canada, Montaina or Texas. I guess it's not mo' than ten mile acrost each way on the average. But among so many perpendicular farms [credit Bill Nye] it looks big. They's so few good places to fight that the Sette now gits mo' than its sheer. Asiago stands out on the perary mo' exposed than Cortina, which is fifty-five miles northeast by airplane, and a lot farther any other way, fur instance dodgin the high mountings or follerin the road. I fears they won't be much left of the town at the tail end of this war.

This high perairy is the only good place in these parts to practice high-pow' artillery.

The people of the Sette is most interestin. Up to recent its folks was considered a kind of Chermins livin under the red, white and green flag. Long ago these folks spoke only a kind of Chermin resemblin Swabian, and alleged scholars of the Sixteenth century identified them as descendants of the Cimbri, perhaps of

the few survivors of the ^{first} bloody defeat inflicted on the Cimbri by Caius Marius in the year 100 B. C. Up to 1797 the Seven were a small republic under the protection of Venice. Then Napoleon gave it to one of his Italian creations but in 1815 it went back to Ostry again, and in 1859 she lost it again to Italy. Of late years, a majority of the people speak Italian only—a lot of the old settlers have only a lingo about as much like Chermin as story-book dialect is like truly Tennessee. Besides these, quite a few up-to-the-present folks speaks Italian and this kind of Chermin, too,

Baedeker says "in all probability" these folk are "relics" of the Allemanni who flocked to followed Theodoric the Great, the Ostrogoth, in 496, after the battle of Tolbiac. Theodoric, you know, invaded Italy from Hungairy in 493.

Asiago is yet, or was, the most important town of the Seven. A dummy (steam tram) road runs southwest seven or eight mile to the town of Arsiero, near the foot of Mt. Cengio, around which mountain they's been some hot fightin lately. From Arsiero the tramway moses along the mountains' aidge S.xS.E. to the junction Y at Schio. One fork of the Y runs N.W. to Torres, the other to Arsiero, which is a inland port for the Sette, with a population of about 2500. From Schio the line runs southeast, then south, to join at Vicenza the main line from Brescia and Verona to Udine.

The dummy from Asiago was used mostly to

haul out the broad-brimmed straw hats, butter, cheese and milk that are the most voluminous products and exports of the Seven. The butter is perduced most in summer, the broad-brim hats in winter.

I arrove (June 6) nine days too late to save Asiago. It's quite vulnerble, so to speak. But I see some rattlin-good fightin two or three mile south of town. Its high perairy is a fine place to show off artillery fire or sich like. The Sette is a open perairy or table land several mile acrost, with a fringe of woods or forest round the aidges and hills and mountings at the back all around, with a few narrow, scroogy ways out, like the Val d'Assa north, Val Frenzela east and Val d'Astico (through which the Arsiero-Schio line runs) at the southwest.

Ye kin see a shell comin quite a ways, but they're harder to dodge than you'd think fur. When that smokeless powder was first diskivered, I 'llowed it 'd be a great thing, but the enemy beats that easy by raisin a smudge, or a smoke-barrage. Of course any kind of a barrier is a barrage. Usual It is an artilley fire so hot that troops kin be lined up and m'neuversed behind it. Even in old times, ez fur back as Gettysburg. or even Napoleon I., 'twas quite commou to preface a charge with the artillery—all of it. The object mostly was to silence the enemy artillery so they couldn't mow down

our men so soon and fast. It was Napoleon's accustomed formula (He was trained for the artillery) and next he would send in to win the day "the bravest of the brave," Ney or Murat:

"Where the broken line, enlarging,
Fell or fled across the plain,
There be sure was Murat charging—
There he ne'er will charge again.

This war I cal'late is the first time they have used gun-fire for barrage or concealment: they found it paid to shoot so fast the enemy would have to keep his head kivered up out of sight and dassn't dare to look or peep or even lift his face out one tiny bit.

Folks of the Sette is ac-colored to smoke. Fur ages their houses hez hed no chimbls—a hole in one side and a sooty outside wall, soovy-nears of the hated and burdenin chimbls-tax!

Britain had a window and chimbls-tax fur a long spell, but Free Himerica never!

Never before did we come to believe that we could afford to use so much ammunition.

The Asiago-MonteCengio dummy line exports broad-brimmed hats and dairy products. It is not operatin' now. Asiago, like Cortina, is fine to see the mountings from, but teetotally commanded from too many of them.

The Italians got out of Asiago May 28; the shells and bums was comin' too thick. They 'llowed the Osterrins wouldn't spile the town

ef they'd move on. But Ostry got too sassy to oncet, and we turned on 'em two mile out.

June 6 the Ostrins made a Pickett's charge against the barrages, etc., on the slopes of Mt. Lemerle, jest south of Asiago. It suggested a steeper Gettysburg. By the 8th they gained the summit. But the Italians, unable to hold the summit, still clung to and held the southwest corner of the mountain, and they never gave it up. The highest position aint allers the strongest. That was high-water mark fur Austr'y at the southeast of the Seven. At Mt. Ciove and Pria Fora, a few mile farther west, they got a lit'le deeper into Italy.

June 18, the anniversary of Waterloo, the enemy made its last attack-attempt on Lemerle

[London Times history says: "June 15th the Austrian commander, after the capture of Mt. Lemerle, addressed his troops: "Only three more mountains, and we will be on the open road to Milan.

But Lemerle was the last one he got—and not quite all of Lemerle.

Such was the endin of a most determined, desprit and devoted campaign. The massed Austrian onset was on-common heavy. Some of the first fierce battles were fought at Zugna Torta, two mile south of Roveredo and about seventeen south of Trent. From the heavier enemy masses pushed the Italians acrost the Posina valley to Monte Pasubio, ten mile from Roveredo southeast by airypine. Then the

enemy zig-zagged northeast along the mountain range almost to the precipices bounding the Val Sugana, then swung southeasterly toward Asiago. The enemy from that side and from Asiago attacked Mt. Cengio near Arsiero the day before I came: when I got to the mounting, all the Italians had been driven off except one Sardinian brigade that hung onto the south slope of Cengio after the rezidoo had hiked across the Val Cannel-yeea [Canaglia]. I sizes up the Sardinians, looks over the field and exclaims:

“Remember Chickamoggy!”

And the Sardinians set the firm lines of their mouths and hung on like Grim Death.

That night we got out much the same as Thomas did, “in good order.” The brigade lost half its men. One batch held the southwest corner of the mounting, above Schiri.

I ’llow some Military Critics got on-popular with the Army by gittin too bad skeert at the Ostrin advance. I cal’late they forced Cadorna’s hand so he hed to let up on the Isonzo. Some Allies is like your whist pardner—a danged site mo’ anxions about yo’ play than to keep out of makin errors thehselfes.

Yeste’day I entered Asiago in triumph—on foot—the withdrawin Ostrins fightin from street to street. She is shot up bad and ketched fire in places. The enemy held Asiago a month.

McCann on Furlough

Genoa, July 4, 1916.

When I see the Mar-Casey di Mirandola at headquarters in the Sette Comuni, he'd received recent a letter from Sallie Yates ez how Bill Yates 'llows to leave Aug. 5 on a Trip to Arkinsaw, and hopes I git home in time to go 'long. Francesco and me talked it over, and decided I could depart at this time without serious injury to the Army and the Campaign—Looks like as if the conquest of the Trentino would all have to be done all over again. We aint quite so neerd to Trent as when I first come last Autum. But I sticks to my first prophesyin. When the Cbermins was a-sweepin thro Belgium, and on down as fur as the Marne, I says to a then unknown spy:

“That's a wonderful Army, but it kaint win in the end.”

As Byron and Dickens says, the deep and dark blue ocean rolls 'round all the world, and

command of the sea is purty probble to to be the last word in a fight to a finish. "I kaint git ont!" was the cry of the Starlin"—also of the neutral.

Now look at Goritzzy. It's only twenty-two mile (by rail) from Udine, but we've been mo' than a year on the way. We haven't traveled much by rail, however. 'Taint the distance so much as the folks, etc., you meet on root. But Goritzzy is doomed.

That last a. m. Francesco hands me a sweepin letter to the police, etc., countersigned by the Commander-in-chief hisself. Then he sets down and composys the follerin, which he hands over with a grin:

Excellenzia the Dook of Mirandola:

Revered ancestor—You will greatly oblige me if you will kindly refrain from making any strange eccos or noises ronndabout the Castle endurin the visit of my friend, McCann. He is pow'ful skeert of ghostez.

—Francesco di Mirandola.

If ever you go to Modena,
Stop at a palace near the Reggio gate,
Dwelt in of old by one of the Donati,
And look a while upon a picture there.
'Tis of a lady in her earliest youth—
Her name Ginevra.

A banker, retired, writ that. Mebby that's

why I kin recall that much. We used to read about Ginevra at school, one of the sorr'fulest tales ever wrote, probly true, of a mischivous but rich and lovely lady who hid in a chist in the garret on her wedding day, to tease the bridegroom and the guests. On-known to her it had a spring-lock, and they all couldn't find her. Bankers are often good writers, but it is mainly in hand-writin, not poetry. I allers did admire bankers, special the accommodatin kind, usual on-pretentious, too.

[McCann quotes Rogers brokenly. Samuel Rogers, retired banker and author, gave so many good dinners that the literati, the people who ate 'em, spoke patronizingly of his verse. His sarcasms alienated the critics he fed at his table. "Description is my forte": so Byron wrote. In description and narrative, in words and measures fastidiously chosen, Rogers also surpassed many an impecunious versifier.]

I come straight thro' Genoa, but got off the keers at Modena, which is quite a city, but is beginning to show its age: not so lively nor so modern as Udine.

Northeast by rail some twenty miles is Mirandola.

(Uncle Blair has no accent-marked a's or e's or other letters in his type, so he writ two poems to show folks how to pernounce Mirandola

—at first he s'posed it was like as follers:

A fellow who knew every learning bit of
school or schola

Was Pico della (tum-tum) Mirandola.

But that isn't kerekt. It rhymes this way:

Of all the castled ruius I have saw
The shabbiest housed old Duke Mirandola.

Mirandola is wher Francesco's fambly come from. Uncle Blair looked up its poppylation to 'splain one of my letters. In haste, he got the township or commune, which includes the town, instid of the town, then stuck on 2,000 mo' to 'llow fur wot it's probly growed sence the census, which was too much, and his total was fur too high. Still, its beauty of situation appeals to a almos'-come-to-be connoisseur like me.

[Population Asiago 2349, commune 6128;
" Arsiero 2500, commune 4821.]

The castle of Mirandola has been short a truly livin Dook fur a long spell: the Sixteenth century put them ont of business, was a hard year fur them. Some of them knew so danged much mo' than the Pope that he put them on the List Expurgatorius, ez how they made His Holiness feel on-easy, like the Kronprinz when Hindenburg comes down the line on pay-raid. And yet they was too poetical fur the Presbyterians, and too full of the gray old Greek and

Roman myths to soot the Lutherans—sort of Swinburne-Rosetti Blessed-Damozels. Twa'nt no wonder they fell between two armies. Our Francesco aint a bit like that. He knows severl languages, but never rubs em in. Probly he's read about hls ancestors. Emprer of Ostry abolished the last Duke of Mirandola 1710

Pico della ——— di Mirandola was the Holy Prodigy, Admirable Crichton · Macaulay Best Speller and Catechism Champion of the 15th century. At the age of only 23, he issued, at Rome, a challenge to the scholastic world of Europe and undiscovered U.S.A. to meet him in a championship discussion of "Everything that Can be Known" (and Some Things Besldes) Voltaire remarked almost 300 years afterward. He submitted no less that 900 separate theses for discussion, but I bet he left out the airy-plane. At the last moment the Pope prohibited the bout. There are beautiful verses about him in French by Gerard de Nerval, done into Englirh by Andrew Lang. He lacked the Sense of Humor, though hardly any other mental attribnte. The mild climate of Italy got away with Pico at the early age of thirty-one in 1494

Genoa has about half as many folks as Milan—and yet it is Italy's greatest seaport, surpassing Naples in net proceeds. When I was a lad I s'posed big cities tapered off gradual. I was surprised awful when for the first time I was on a train that emerged from thick-settled Chicago

and in five minutes was loozin itself on the horizonless perairy. One might expect they would build both cities where Genova is, but Milan kep' on growin. Two great tunnels thro the Alps are handy by, and brakemen got into the habit, as the train slowed up in the poorer districts of Milan, of throwin off a piece or hunk of coal, for some poor fambly. By and by the poor fambly'd start a factory, and manufacturin in transit, and terminal rates, was established. Besides, the hills of Genoa is middlin steep.

The Genoese have allers been sui generis, so to speak, different to them of any other city, doin' bizness off its own bat, like the free cities of old times, Hamburg and the like. Milan was long an Austrian possession, and kept the money at home, as fur as possible, a habit that lasted after she jined united Italy. Also Genoa stuck to her old sea-farin ways. The Army is abatin some this cosmopolitanism.

I writ once of the number of Borgos in Italy. I see two mo' in Genoa—Borgo Pila and Borgo Insciati. The last-named seems to be in society. One might say this kind of borgo is a soob-urb or Borough like The Bronx or Manhattan or Queens.

Genoa faces mostly south, which keeps it nice and warm at this time of year. On such warm, moonlit nights Columbus, clothed only with his enthusiasm, Columbus used to lie in

bed with his head part-way out the window, in one of the many high-up houses, and fancy he could see off southwest

Far as the Pillars which Alcides reared

at the Straits of Gibraltar, and figger wot was acrost the Atlantic beyond.

One of the finest buildins is Palazzo Doria, like as not named in honor of the famby of Francesco Doria, the young man who was to marry Ginevra.

Weary of his life, Francesco flew to Venice,
Flung it away in battle with the Turk——

Near-by in city blocks, but the other end of the scale, is the massive Albergo di Poveri.

Genoa has a great art collection, but Peggy isn't in our party, and steam is up for U.S.A.

Where'er I roam, whatever wars to see,
My heart, untraveled, fondly turns to thee.

I was a guest of a widowed cousin of the Mar-
Casey, thirty-one year old, chick [chic] and fascinatin'. Although she is a native Genoese, her hair is the neerdest flaxen I have seen in Italy, or sun-kissed lemon color you might call it, with big, light-blue eyes. She is exceeding well "posted," as Bill Yates 'd say, in what the

Foe used to call World-Polit-tic. I jedge her her to be also a connoisseur of art and antique literature and archaeology. She keeps (basks in the approval of) a stately English butler. He told me she had wrote a book, "Genoa of the Antediluvians," that had been crowned by the French Academy. I thought the Forty Immortal had quit the practice.

She flitted past the pictures with me today; says she llkes ALL Americans, but I hope not.

A Sea 'Scape

About 4:30 my chaperon druv me to U. S. A. consulate, where I shook her. The vice consul greeted me with mo' enthusiasm than I calculated. "Jest the man I want to see. Won't you come into the parlor and set down fur a few minutes?" He hands me a New York paper that tells about a hull fambly bein killed in an automobeel, and that reminds me I has a new perfeshin to learn next summer, shuvverin. A English Major comes in and says his sister is sailin by the night boat for Northampton, Mass., to visit friend. She has no companions but a little Swiss maid, and the only English-speakin passenger is me.

I 'llows ez how I've learnt to be a avvytor a spy and a sojer, but sailerin is my weak soot.

"She's going to America to recooperate; had a job pulling me out, but don't let her talk of me—the little Genevese kin teach you both French and you can tell Alice about America.

"I aint been to many young-lady places. I

never summered at Lenox.

"She's partial to the wild and woolly—in fiction—deeds of dairin, you know."

He interdoosed me to Alice on the boat—a tall, fair, well muscled girl, mebbby a few months older or younger than Peggy, with light blue, blazzy eyes.

The Major had got shot thro the lungs (or lights, we used to-call 'em) and she'd worked hard resuscitatin him. I guessed Alice's figger was fine, but 'twas only a guess, owin' to her long, loose-fittin, purplish-brown overcoat, and she had good pearls in her ears, and di'mons in the comb that held up her back hair at dinner. It was her pull, I 'llow, that got me a seat at the Captain's table, where I made a onmistakable hit. His voice minded me of old Henry Clay Banabee, tho I cal'late he'd swallered mo' weather and less bronchial medicine. Every danged one of the Captain's Table spoke English for perlite to Alice.

Alice asked the Captain ez how about the submarine danger, and he passed it up to me fur fun, bein ez how I had never see a submarine. Then I told 'em about a farmer's horses that 'd start to run every time they heered the keers whistle. One time his wife got spilt out and hurt and he traded off the team for a pair that had been brought up in a roundhouse. It was about a month later, at a grade crossin, the keers whistled, the horses never lifts an ear, too tame to run, the en-jine hits the wagon, killin' the hull fambly, includin a year-old baby. Ba-

bies usual gits away on-hurt.

After dinner we lounges on deck. Marie (I wonder if they're all named Marie) is half as tall as Alice. The moon is in her first quarter, already beginnin to think of retirin fur the night. On our port quarter, dim and far, are the lights of Corsica. I observe how the pale fuzzy moonlight matches Alice's cheek, like ice cream melting in cream, and approve the slender aristocrat nose, tilted the tiniest trifle, reassuringly low at the bridge.

Hours pass idly. I tells of The Betrothed, Salzburg, Schwester, Innsbruck, Meran, New York and Boston.

After a hot day, the cool, fragrant air, laden with the odors of Riviera roses and the gardens bordering the sea, is delicious. In a scant half hour, the moon will disappear. Twice has Alice spoken of retiring, and lingered. In the same instant, Alice clutched me arm, and I hears a 'splosion on the side of the boat away from the settin moon. In a second the crew got busy, the waiters passin out life-belts, a mate on the bridge, the Captain bossin the deck. In less 'n six minutes everybody is in the boats. Ours was the only one that upset in launchin, and we all got spilt into the Mediterranean. I hears Alice's voice close to my ear, "Swim clear if ye kin!" She wor a travlin as easy as Hero's Leander or Annette Kellerman, one hand aholt of the little mountain-maid's back-strap, propellin' with the other. The mate comes over-board with a life-buoy and tells me to take holt.

I thinks: "If Hoke Tucker could see me now!" Jee! Two minutes later I hears Alice agin: "The Captain's on the bridge!" I looks, the ship's stern was in the air, the foc'sle under water. The Captain, one foot braced aslant, was sizing up the lifeboats.*

"Down she goes by the head," says the mate—and in a swirl and with a hiss and roar of steam, the big ship plunged headfu'st to Davy Jones's drydock.

It growed darker, the moon's last feeble rays was fadin; U 61 was already amongst us, not takin nobody on board. All to oncet I feels a lasso under my arms, and I was yanked aboard the submarine, whose deck was all above water and the crew on deck. The man at the other end of the lass-so was the common-Dante, from St. Looey, Seattle, Mt. Blanc, Salzburg, and all over, now commander-in-chief of U-61. I furgits discipline, and my wetness, and blurts out, astonished-like:

"Whelh did you learn submareenin and navigatin?" Then I thinks, "No trip with Bill Yates, but back to Ostry fur me!" However, he don't let on I was a 'scaped prizner, on the contrairy he pertends he last see me in St. Looey—and I see the p'int fur a wonder. He

*This incident was first put in type June 9, 1917, published June 14 in The Jury. June 15 the author saw first, in N Y. Times of 10th June the extremely similar sinking of the French SS. Sontay.

never told me he'd cowboyed two year in Montaina.

Soon after sun-up a Spanish steamer come along, out of Marrsail'. Common-Dante huv her to, sends ns all aboard, and orders us into Port Mahon, and come part-way with us, "ez a guaranty of good faith."

In 1865, the home-come soldiers guv a play at Fort Madison. Uncle Blair's big (small but growed-up) brother was a Major General (in the play) bein ez how he wan't tall enough fur a private. All a Major General in a play has to do is to wear a slouch hat and shoulder-straps, and be keerful to not git a-straddle of his sword. They don't dast make Generals talk much. Uncle Blair was only 4 years old (goin-on 5) a infant prodigy for memorizin but not wuth the powder to blow him up with fur speakin pieces; and so they put Blair on fur a recitation entr'acte like Jessie Bartiett Davis used to sing "Promise Me" in Robbin' Hood. Blair was a teetotal failure, skeert worse than any of the other actors had been at Perairy Grove: he started off

Old Ironsides at anchor lay
In the harbor of Mahon——

And broke down as often as a second-hand motor keer.

When we entered the harbor of Port Mahon

(one of the finest in Europe but not the busiest owin to lack of tributary kentry) Alice looked twiset as healththy as she did at Genoa.

Port Mahon, island of Minorca, is a city of about twenty thousand folks. Precedin the Frinch and Indian war of 1756-63 she was a British possession. In 1756 the Spaniards attacked and besieged her. Admiral Byng was sent to relieve Minorca. He looked the Spanish fleet over keerful, and went away. London papers made a awful holler, was full of ironical rhymes.

Oh, that in the rolling ocean
I had cast them with disdain,
And obeyed my heart's warm motion
To have quelled the pride of Spain.

—Quoted by Schmucker.

When Admiral Byng got back to London he was tried and took out and shot. When folks took time to cool off, they'llowed Byng had been sackerficed to popular clamor, and was only guilty of a error of jedgment, speshil as Spain guv back Minorca at the peace. Spain, with France and Himerica for allies, re-took Minorca in 1782.

And yet, ever sence, when a British Admiral makes a error of jedgment, it's been in the direction of fightin.

I said Mahon has one of the finest Harbors

in Europe, three miles deep. It would be a great seaport if it had the country back of it, but the land is owned by a few men, who rent it to peasants who don't perdoose much.

The name Mahon, I'llow is a soov-near of the Irish conquest of Spain, which was kerried forward like the Irish conquest of Aimerica as took place 1850-85. In Spain, as in Himerica, the Irish took to politics right soon. Famous Gen. O'Donnell, was right bower for two Queens—for Isabella II. and her mother and Regent-predecessor, Queen Christina. He was practically Dictator for quite a spell. He was a descendant of a Limerick exile of 1691. Most of them exiles went with Sarsfield to France, but The (1691) O'Donnell believed that the French ate frogs' (legs), and as late as 1685 O'Donnell's grandfather was still wearing a souvenir of the Invincible Armada, a beautiful embroidered jacket that had been washed ashore (a grandee in it) a hundred years before. Gen. O'Donnell couldn't say a word of Irish, and knowed only nine English words—"I am happy to meet you" and three English cusswords. He was a corker, and sure inherited the Irish versatility, bein ez how he wor a statesman and soldier. Mahon was occupied by the English so long that the jargon is still spoke. "Damn" and "Bloody" are the English words I heered oftenest resound around the docks.

Isabella made Gen. O'Donnell a Dook, Dook of Tetuan, and he holp her to lose her moral

reputation, It was partly lost before. After her exile in 1869, he lived as one of her entourage in Paris, and her husband, an on-popular little Prince (while she was Queen folks called him The King, once in a while, for fun,) elsewhere. Spaniards are purty pertickler, and the scandal irritated 'em; but no one blames a man, leastways a Irishman, in the case of a Queen, more especial a regnant Queen.

One night at the British consul's we played ole-fashioned whist, without no Bridge, with Alice and the consul agin me and the most beautiful lady in Spain: grace in her every motion, thrills in the touch of her hand; gay, and brimming with laughter, then archly sad; a face and form that would delight and despair Valasquez. Her breath is like a early morning zephyr from dewy roses in mid-summer. Her whist——. When she rests soft, dark eyes on you, it means: "Have you the biggest trump?" Her husband is suspected of being in the pay of H. B. M., and is absent in Spain—or Afriky.

I showed the ladies the new creases in my pants.

A wireless to the British consul gave Alice carty blanch, and the common-Dante guv me a requets or order on the German consul for a suit of clothes; bnt the consul advised me to get it in Barcelona, wher stocks are bigger;

ez how a wealthy gentleman wired he was a-comin to take me and Alice to the big city to catch a boat to America. He arrove Friday, The consul's own tailor ironed out my suit, while I wore his pyjamas.

I didn't lose my money like some of the passengers.

We arrove in Barcelona yesterday. It is one of the finest cities I ever see, but they tell me they's lots of annerkis. A cylopedy says the harbor (not crowded nowadays) is three times bigger'n both of Marsail's but not so big as Genoa's. It kivvers 346 acres—big enough for two farms if the water was drained off and the salt evaporated. Barcelona is Spain's biggest shippin' p'int, doin \$150,000,000 trade with over-seas, sellin a half more'n she buys. She hez about 600,000 people—half outside the city limits. Barcelona reckons the rezidoo of Spain Mossbacked. Spain gits back by sayin:

"You're too big and on-rooly now,"

And keepin 'er split up:

Barcelona has her Piedmont, too, roostin' high, with millionaires fur night watchmen; several Berkeleys, wher retired sea lords and literati live, one big 'varsity, and three Emeryvilles,

to show

The very place where wicked people go.

Spain has one larger city, Madrid, 440 miles

by rail, 310 by airyplane. Barcelona has one of the finest climates of the world, mean (not ornery) temperature 61, and is about due east of Yreka; Evanston, Wyoming; Lincoln, Newbrasky; DesMoines, Iowa; Chicago, Illinois; Cleveland, Ohio, and New York, N. Y. Some of these places have a climate mo' severe, even if Barcelona does git a touch of the mistral off the Pyrenees oncet in a while in winter.

The Rambla, a fine street, runs fur three-quarters of a mile from the noble statue and monument of Columbus, with a double row of shade trees. Barcelona is another Crescent City, and fronts its bay in a grand semi-circle.

When the Earl of Peterborough was Lord Monmouth, he had a personal moral and immoral record bad enough to beat him even for Chief of P'leece. If a lady of any rank wot-ever took his eye, at Court, in London or the Provinz, he'd set out same evening and kidnap her hisself. He gambled, too, and most everything. He didn't change his name to beat his record, but his uncle, the Earl, died and left him a lot of money. Marlborough wan't jealous after Blenheim, and sent Peterborough to conquer Spain fur Charles of Austria against Philp of France, the first Bourbon King of Spain, ez how the old fambly of Philip Second and Charles Fifth and Isabella of Castile had run out. That's wot the war was about.

Montjuich was an impregnable fortress jest

west of Barcelona, and set on a hill. The hill is still there, to corroborate history, bein ez how Henry Ford is quoted as sayin that history is all bunk. The Prince of Hesse, who was along with a batch of Hessians, had made a sneerin remark about the English, probly to the effect that they prefer to hire their fightin' done. So Peterborough goes to him and llows he intends to make a night attack on Montjuich whether he jines in or not. Put up to him that-a-way, the Prince goes along and gits killed. At the head of only 1,500 British and Irish, My Lord Peterborough stormed the fort; oncet, when he was off linin up the Dutch and Chermains, the so fur victorious English got in a panic, and was gittin licked. Peterborough he comes back like Sheridan and swept everything, fort and hill and all. Montjuich fallen, Barcelona had to s'render.

Folks in England made mo' fuss over Peterborough's victry than over Blenheim, or most as much—it was so spectacular—if Parliament didn't vote him no great fortune like it done Marlborough, ez how Parliament knowed that Marlborough would save his money keerful and improve his land, while Peterborough 'd spend right off the reel. Besides too many M. P.'s had it in for Peterborough personally. The hoi polloi of London—the City masses—whose wives had never met His Lordship, went wild at the great news.

Blenheim was fit 1704, Montjuich 1705.

I wish I could write up an attack like that in this war. But they won't usual let me git within forty rod of the firin line.

I bet if My Lord Peterborough had been in Sir Dooglas Haig's or Admiral Beatty's place that inside of a week his enemies 'd had him jest where they wanted him—inside a loonatic asylum. Keepin' track of so many men and guns, of friend and foe, by telephone, telegraph or horse and cart, would of razzled him. Sir Dooglas or Admiral Beatty, special the latter, would of gone like our Admiral Sampson if ary one of them had been built Physical like him. Jedgin from Beatty's face and figger, I 'llow a bulldog 'd be as easy to kill with worry.

Kipling's man who went crazy watchin' the currents and tryin' to keep 'em from runnin crooked, wouldn't do for Commander-in Chief these times.

Fact is, this is a wrist-watch war. I kaint sense wot they 'd of done without the needed indeed ondispensable wrist-clock. The lines is so long everything hed to be done like as if the officers was railroad conductors, on time, and theh watches hed to jibe and be kep kerect and no delays tolerated. In our on-civil and precedin wars, often, orders woul go out the night before for all divisions to attack at sun-up. One division wouldn't be ready till after eleven, hed forgot its artillery or something, or

they was mud in the powder or a cow on the track. Sometimes it was tow'rds evening before an attack was delivered.

They aint much of that sort of thing in this war. "Time is the essence of this order" is printed at the top of every order-blank.

What most diskerridges the folks at home, and special the book agents is they aint no chanst fur hero-worship. We hear of a Lieutenant General bein' permoted to Field Marshal but don't hear wot he done. Did he say:

Charge, Chester, charge !
Strike, till the last armed foe expires !
A little more grape, Capt. Bragg !
Up, Guards, and at them !
McPherson and revenge !

No, not in a telephone-telegraph war ! The Marshal gets his remarks printed, and a million copies distributed to the Army, and seventy thousand or so for Paris.

True, Grant set in his tent and writ:

No terms but unconditional surrender——

I propose to fight it out on this line——

And so did they propose who fit before Verdun.

Barcelona was part of the Cat-a-lan kingdom up to 1137, when their suvrin got married to the Princess of Aragon and took Catalonia along for dowry—I mean alimony.

The French had her (Catalonia) a while, but

Spain got her again in 1652. The Catalan is a sonorous speech like Spanish, with streaks of old French, "sweet beyond compare," from over the long-ago green Pyrenees.

The owner of our yatchit interdoosed me to his clever and beautiful daughter Pepita. I was ramblin with her today on the Rambla to give the old grandee leisure and an undisturbed siesta. Pepita has the step of a thoroughbred, the footfall of a fairy treading on daisies and clover; the eye of a wild gazelle, and a voice low and rich, like Peggy's mother; twenty, and wears good clothes. It was Sunday afternoon, and the showin' of clothes and folks was over-powerin.

Spain is the most nootral of nootrals, which makes it a hot question. The King is personally popular, is surer to hold his job than most Kings 'd be in his place.

Pepita showed me a "Punch" in which the editor thanks the King for wot he personally done in a pathetic case of a English prisoner in Germany.

Barcelona was named in honor of Halilcar Barca? You remember Hamilcar? He was a Phoenician, but some of his folks settled later in Carthage.

I asked my beautiful guide if "La Boca de Pepita" was wrote about her?

"Do I seem as old as that?"

Farewell, Europe

Cadiz, Surrounded by the Sea, July 9, 1916.

Some one long ago p'inted out that the Spanish runs more to consonants than other so-called Latin or Romance languages. This tends to make folks mo' taciturn and reserved, ez how it takes mo' effort to pernounce consonants. Spaniards writes fewer books, too, 'most all of them decent; not much obscene literature in Spain. Chary of speech leads to chary of writin.

Carthage hed a lot to do with settlin Spain. Early Carthaginians was probly a rugged folk. Hasdrubal (All peoples, from Phoenicians to English, has had trouble with the Letter H], Hannibal's little brother, founded Carthage in 228 or 221 B. C. The bay minded him of his ole home town, so he named the place New Carthage. Rome, N. Y., wan't named by Italians, but by a man who hed jest read Plutarch. Said man must of been quite a potentate or

a big land-owner. He named a bunch of near together towns in Central New York as follers: Pompey, Cato, Cicero, Syracuse, Rome, etc. Pompey, Cato and Cicero kilt theh towns 'most dead, but Rome and Syracuse growed purty good. [Seems to me Brutus has a town theh named for him; and Cassius, too.] Carthage, Ill., is some punkins of a city, and Athens and Rome, Georgia, are beautiful places.

They's another Cartagena in South America (Colombia). The h is silent. The word cartage is the outrageous charge they used to collect for haulin things up from the wharf or warf at Carthage about 303 B. C.

Carthageua, Spain, has growed to 41,000 in 2144 years; has a fine harbor and fairly fine climate, and is Spain's leadin' naval station. Spanish-American war guv its business a black eye, but gittin rid of Cuby was money in the pockets of the rezido of Spain. We made only a party call, leavin in two hours fur Cadiz, and passin' ole Gib without stoppin; visitors are non grata now.

Cadiz growed to 64,000 in 3,017 years. You know Spaniards are sposed not to hurry, The Romans called her Gades and she always had a rep. for gayety; the first gadders b'longed theh. She is built on a low, small, almost island with no room for-platted additions; no chance for its benevolent promoter to show you a new,

nicer place to live. So town lots is worth jest about as much as in King David of Israel the Psalmist's time.

Phoenicians was the first bold sailors of this world, but submarines and Mariner's Compass hadn't come to yet. They hung around the Mediterranean fur quite a spell before anybody whistled up courage enough to go out past the Pillars of Hercules, a heathen alias (otherwise) for Gibraltar straits, and see wot the dreaded, fabled Atlantic was like; but one day a daring bunch in a boat sneaked ont past the Pillars of H—— and turned to the right dead agin the English rules. Right soon they come to a plint or promontory high and skeery. A sailor sejested the subway to Hades was jest around the p'int; so they run the boat ashore an' sent a sailor over the hill to see. He got through an' set on a rock waitin, but a sea serpent met the boatload, and swallered boat and all. The lone scout on the rock waited a couple days, then started back thro' the woods, but was never heern tell of. A year later a second lot or bunch come out, lookin fur the first. They come to the same p'int, sent a man over the same hill, waited one day, then went round and waited quite a spell but didn't go into the forest to look for their sailor-scout, for fear of bears, so he probly got lost. The others went on and founded the city of Cadiz about 1100 B. C. (before the first Christmas.)

Cadiz is 350 years older 'n Rome, but Rome

grewed fur a spell, and seems now to be in her second childhood, growin' some mo. Cadiz has a good Atlantic trade, seein ez how she is the neerdest Eu-rope-yen port to Southern U. S. A. and Central and South America. Many of the ships for Barcelona, Trieste and Genoa call at Cadiz, and their officers, some of them, sometimes, call on her beautiful ladies. The warm, moist air gives them complexions enchanting, captivating-fair, rosier than the Carthaginian.

Parque Genova and Avenue de Apodaca are attractive, Calle de Tetuan the best street. As per fore-goin, Cadiz has little room to grow sideways, and the houses is tall, and nearly all are painted white, which gives to Cadiz from the sea an aspect unique: a snow-drop in turquoise or emerald setting.

A Himerican promoter, probly a Chermin spy, has been shinin' round Alice.

As we docked at a U. S. A. port, Alice's girl friend cried: "How wise and clever to come in a nootral ship!"

"'Twan't our fault,'" says Alice. "We're out fur adventures, but didn't see even the Blue Canaries!"

[O'Donnell Duke of Tetuan died, say several books, 1867. Isabella was exiled 1868, which vindicates O'Donnell as to 1868-9. Espartero was a considerably greater national figure.]

Beginning a New Age

THE Great War of 1914-19 will long baffle or confound writers who essay description graphic and picturesque of the brilliant battles fought and so often won by the German armies, who entered upon the war more near perfectly led, trained and equipped than any before, ever, if each great military success brought them only nearer to total surrender.

A dozen such victories led to ruin !

Where is the Victor Hugo who can hold his gait describing a Waterloo that lasted from February to July ?

“——They fought from morn till noon,
From noon till dewy eve: a summer's day

[Here follows a Chronology]

1914	THE WAR AT A GLANCE
June 28	Murder of Archduke Franz at Sarajevo
July 28	Austro-Hungary declares war on Servia

- Aug. 1 Germany declares War against Russia
 2 Germans demand transit across Belgium
 3 Germany declares War upon France
 4 President Wilson proclaims U.S. neutral
 4 to 26 . Germans overrun Belgium
 4 Great Britain declares war on Germany
 12 " " " Austria
 18 Russia all mobilized, invades E. Prussia
 23 Franco-British retreat from Mons, etc.
 31 Halt of Allies on the Seine and Marne
 Czar re-names St. Petersburg Petrograd
 Sept. 3 French Government moves to Bordeaux
 5 Allies agree not to make separate peace
 6-10 Battle of the Marne, Germans retire
 7 Germans take Maubenge
 11 Australian expedition takes New Guinea
 16 Russians driven from E. Prussia
 27 Botha invades Southwest Africa
 Oct. 9 Germans occupy Antwerp
 13 Belgian Gov't moved to Havre, France
 16-28—Battle of the Yser; Germans halted
 17 to Nov. 17—Battle of Ypres
 21-28—Germans driven back in Poland
 Nov. 1 German naval victory off Chili
 5 Great Britain declares war on Turkey
 7 Tsingtau surrenders to the Japanese
 10-13 Austria invades Servia; British take
 Basra, Persian Gulf; Panama Zone proc. neutral
 Nov. 16, 1914 Cruiser Emden captured Cocos Isld
 Dec. 2 Belgrade captured: recaptured Dec. 14
 8 British naval victory off Falkland Isles
 17 Egypt proclaimed a British protectorate
 24 First German air raid on England

- Jan. 7 France forbids sale of absinthe in War
Jan. 5 Am.ship W.P.Frye sunk by Eitel Frdch
Feb. 4 Germans proclaim war zone abt Britain
March 10 British capture Neuve Chapelle
March 17 Russians take Przemysl
Apr. 17-May 17 Germans use gas, 2d bat. Ypres
Apr. 23 Germans warn vs. travel in British ships
Apr. 26 Allies land on Gallipoli Peninsula
Apr. 30 Germans invade Russian Baltic provinces
May 7 Lusitania sunk; 1154 lost, 114 American
May 10. German message sympathy for lost Am's
May 23 Italy declares war on Austria-Hungary
June 8 Wm. J. Bryan, Secretary of State, resigns
June 22 Austro-Germans re-capture Lemberg
July 12 to Sept. 18 Germans take Russ. Poland
Aug. 20 Italy declares war on Turkey
Sept. 18 Germans capture Wilna (Russia)
Oct. 14 Britain declares war on Bulgaria
Oct. 6 Austro-Germans overrun Servia
Nov.—Russians advance on Teheran
Dec. 10 Boy-Ed and Von Papen recalled from U.Si
Dec. 15 Sir Douglas Haig succeeds Sir John French
Dec. 19. British evac. Anzac, Sulva bay (Gallipol)

- Jan. 8 British complete evacuation of Gallipoli
 Jan. 13 Cetinje, Montenegro, falls to Austrians
 Feb. 16 Germans ackn'l'g liability for Lusitania
 Feb. 21-July— Battle of Verdun
 Feb. 24 Wilson refuses to warn Americans not
 to travel on armed merchant ships
 Mar. 8 Germans declare war on Portugal
 Mar. 19 Russians enter Ispahan
 Apr. 17 Russians capture Trebizond
 24 Insurrection in Ireland
 Apr. 26 Townsend surrenders to Turks at Kut
 May 16-June 3—Austrian attack in Trentino
 31 Naval battle of Jutland
 June 5 Lord Kitchener drowned
 17 Russians take Czernowitz
 July 1 to Nov. Battle of the Somme
 Aug. 6 Italian offensive. Gorizia falls Aug. 9
 27 Italy declares war on Germany
 Roumania joins Allies; Bucharest falls Dec. 6
 Sept. 7 Senate ratifies buy of Danish Virgin isls.
 Dec. 6 Fall of Asquith; Lloyd-George Premier
 12 German Peace offer: Allies decline, 30th
 demand "restoration, reparation, indemnities"
 Dec. 18 Wilson peace note; 26th German reply

- Feb. 3 Wilson dismisses Bernstorff, severs rel'tns
12 Will not treat till U-boats are withdrawn
24 Kut re-taken by Gen. Maude
Mar. 4 British take over entire Somme front
of 100 mi., Fr. 173: Belg. 25 mi.
Mar. 11 Bagdad falls to Gen. Maude
15 Czar abdicates; revolution in Russia
Apr. 6 U.S. declares war on Germany.
May 17 Kerensky minister of war
18 Wilson signs selective draft act
June 10 Italian Trentino offensive
1 King Constantine of Greece abdicates
26 First American troops reach France
29 Greece joins Allies and enters war
July 4 Bethmann-Hollweg resigns
Aug. 10 Food Control enacted
Sept. 3 Germans capture Riga
15 Russian Republic
Oct. 26 Brazil declares war on Germany
Oct. 24-Dec. Great Austrian drive in Italy
Nov. 13 Clemenceau succeeds Premier Painleve
Nov. 22 to Dec. 13—Battle of Cambrai
Nov. 29 Col. House attends 1st inter-allied Conf.
Dec. 6 Destroyer Jacob Jones torpedoed
Dec. 7 United States declares war on Austria-H.
Dec. 9 Allenby captures Jerusalem
Dec. 14 Cuba declares war on Austria
Dec. 18 Sixteen Gothas raid London
Dec. 24 Germans break Italian line near Asiago
Dec. 26 Vice Admiral Wemyss 1st Lord Admiralty
Dec. 31 Lord Rhondda rations sugar $\frac{1}{2}$ lb a week

- Jan. 7 Mutiny at Kiel, 38 killed
 Earl Reading ambassador to U S
 14 Murder of Lenine attempted
 26 Ostend bombarded
 29 Sir E. Carson resigns from British Cabinet
 Italians break German line near Asiago
 Air raid over London kills 47, injures 100
 30 " " Paris " 36 " 190
- Feb. 3 Gen. March, Chief of General Staff U S
 Feb. 4 Trial begun of Bolo Pasha
 Feb. 12 Eighth session Long(est) Parliament
 Feb. 14 Bolo sentenced to death; executed Apr 16
 Lord Northcliffe Director of Propaganda
 18 Bolshiviki capture Kiev
 23 English occupy Jericho
 Roumania makes peace with Germany
- Mar. 2 Germans enter Kieff (Kiev)
 10 Russian Capital Moscow, vice Petrograd
 13 Germans enter Odessa
 18 Britain and US seize Dutch ships in ports
 21 Teutons capture Pultowa (Poltova)
- Mar. 21 "Fat Bertha" bombards Paris (61 mi.)
 28 Turk army destroyed; British cross Jordan
 30 Foch Commander-in Chief of Allies
 31 National Debt of Britain \$29,500,000,000
- Apr 4 U S troops occupy Meuse heights, Verdun
 13 House of Commons passes man-power bill
 23 Reichtofen, Teuton air-king, buried London
- May 4 Sir John French Lord Lieut. of Ireland
 13 Karl and Wilhelm form 25-year alliance
 Kaiser proclaims Lithuania independent
 19 Major Raoul Lufbery shot down
 20 Twenty planes raid London; 44 killed

- May 30 Germans take Soissons, 25,000 prisoners
 June 3 Fr. & Americans force foe re-cross Marne
 19 Teuton attack on Rheims repulsed
 July 15 Hayti declares war; Q. Roosevelt killed
 12 Russian Czar murdered
 19 Americans & Fr. force foe back to the Aisne
 Honduras declares war.
 18 Hoover: U. S. sent Europe \$1,400,000,000
 food in yr; Aug. 29, British take Bapaume
 21 Chateau-Thierry occ. by Fr. & Americans
 gain 197 towns, 1000 sq. mi., line short'nd 33 mi
 26 Lloyd-George: strikers must work or fight
 Aug. 19 D'Annunzio drps 14 bombs on Pola arsenal
 23 Foch created Marshal of France
 Sept. 16 Czecho-Slovaks appeal for allied help
 23 English, Caledonians and Irish enter Acre
 30 Max of Baden Chancellor, vice Hertling
 Oct. 1 Allenby captures Damascus, capital of
 Syria, 300,000; Servians re-enter Nish
 5 Teutons leave Lille, set fire to Douai
 Ferdinand abd. Bulgaria, Boris abd. Nov. 1
 8 Caledonians, Irish, English occupy Beirut
 13 French take Laon.
 18 Guatemala confiscates German light-plant
 16 Albrt enters Ostend; Nov. 9 Kaiser quits
 Max Dictator few days; Ebert Chancellor
 Nov. 11 Armistice signed; 12th Kaiser Karl abd.
 Dec. 13 President Wilson arrives in France
 Dec. 26 Wilson guest King George, Jan. 6 "T.R." dies
 28 Lloyd-George has 519 in new Parliament, all opp. 188

Feb.-1'19 KurtEisner, Premier, killed at Munich
May 19 Congress in spl session to receive Treaty
June 28 Germans sign Treaty at Versailles
Aug. 16, '19 King George signs Act approv'g Treaty

At the Corner-Stone of Bunker Hill Monument in 1825 Daniel Webster said:

"We live in a most extraordinary Age."

No man has ever since so characterized A. D. 1825! It seems to us later Americans rather the central year of interregnum between the introduction of the steamboat and the introduction of the locomotive; between the first American Protective Tariff and the first compromise with threatened Secession: between the reaper and mower and the invention of Electric Telegraphy. The extraordinary age that produced Daniel Webster had not yet produced either the Locomotive or Telegraph.

The first days of a more extraordinary age were coincident with the months of 1916 from which the policy of Mr. Lloyd-George began to control the British Empire: for a few weeks in the Asquith Cabinet, then under himself as Prime Minister—a policy that forced all of the principal nations save Spain and the Dutch and Scandinavian nations to become allies, and up-

set the world-old customs of commerce and war and discredited many modern inventions: smoke screens or barrages nullified smokeless powder; in two years commodities, priced in gold, rose farther than they had previously risen in price in any one entire century.

Wilhelm II, his Generals and Armies, at the commencement of the war, were found to be in a state of preparedness superior to any contemporary, and possibly without a rival in the whole historic past. A British writer of humor made the point and timely cavil that Germany's entire military system was in such a condition of perfection that its nomenclature even could not be improved in a single polysyllable. The very name of every military, war-like article, iota, item or appurtenance was infallibly and accurately descriptive. No better name could be found had one searched all summer, nor any coined, which obviated delays more numerous than one might suspect; and so it came about that even finical word-smiths found nothing to do but march and fight.

The German army, as we have seen, was ready. The navy was not.

Soon after the accession of William II, in 1888, he began to formulate a system of overseas commercial expansion and colonies. His Chancellor, Prince Bismarck, though hostile to every form of Anglomania, in which hostility

he had been supported hitherto by the young Kaiser, now opposed the Kaiser' naval and expansion program as likely to embroil Germany with Great Britain. Bismarck retired, and the Kaiser pushed vigorously forward his plans for a great navy.

During the twenty-odd ensuing years, the overseas trade of Germany made surprisingly great advances. In the South Pacific and in South America the time could be foreseen when Germans would control the market; and a large part of the staple fabrics, especially the cheaper metal ware, sold in even Britain, and in the United States, bore the soon-familiar graven legend, "Made in Germany."

During three or four years next preceding 1914, although Germany's mercantile fleet continued to grow rapidly, the interest of the German nation in her war navy seemed to slacken. Here lay the fatal weakness. In 1914 its war fleet ranked next below that of the United States, far behind Britain's. When the American fleet in 1917 was united with the allied sea-tigers of Britain, France and Italy, the out-starving of Germany became a not far-distant certainty, in spite of all the victories of her land Army.

An American naval Captain (raised later to Rear Admiral) Alfred T. Mahan, was the first author to set forth clearly the "Influence of

Sea Power upon History." The war of 1914-19 confirmed in every item his deductions from the history of former wars. The ships and sailors of the Allies did not do much fighting in comparison with their armies, but the preponderant strength they represented chiefly sufficed, with their own vigilance, to make possible the achievements of soldiers and statesmen, of munition-makers and workers.

Admiral Mahan died a few months after the war's commencement, Dec. 1, 1914, at the age of 74. Astonished no doubt by the swift and seemingly irresistible advance of the Germans in August to within fifty miles of Paris, there is no reason to doubt that he died serene and confident of the truth of his own precepts and deductions from history, which proved that in the final event victory for Germany was not in the range of possibility:

During forty years of peace, German militarists had studied war, and several inventions or improvements evidenced their originality and thoroughness. Long-range small arms and smokeless powder had been the pretext for creeping-up movements at night, which had brought the trenches of either army into close proximity to the enemy, so that grenades and other missiles were thrown by hand into the hostile trenches, and soldiers were drilled in this hand-throwing, which seemed likely to result in a permanent stall, which was broken up or obviated by the device credited to a German

General, von Hutier. A brief but violent bombardment preceded the attack by a strong force which emerged suddenly and rapidly, in solid formation, from a thick smoke-barrage. This device drove the British back behind the Somme in 1918, and caused the Caporetto disaster to Gen. Count Cadorna's army in October, 1917, which, exposing Venice, occasioned retirement of that General. Gen. Diaz succeeded him.

In April, 1915, Germans began using poison gas at the second battle of Ypres. This use of gas was bitterly denounced by the British; but, before the end of the war, the British used gas more successfully than the Germans.

Submarine or under-sea boats were used in this war, first, most destructively by Germans. Nevertheless, before the war ended Britain had larger and finer submarines than any of the enemy's. One of these war-time creations, not quite completed at the Armistice, carried a 300 ton gun.

On the side of the Allies, the French armies and the British navy were alone in any sense prepared to resist the German attack. On the land Britain's soldiers were thrown against the perfectly-trained and supplied enemy minus the indispensable adequate supply of ammunition.

"A heavier gunfire is the best fortifications"

The British people could not bear the thought

that Britain's soldiers should be exposed for lack of ammunition helpless before the best-equipped army that ever took the field. Never did the latent heroism of the British nation come to the front more brilliantly, to shine refulgent. Men, women and children of every rank set themselves to work in ammunition factories. The United States was called on for thousands of tons, and in 1917 and 1918 Britain alone was able to supply herself.

When, after fifty-two years of unbroken peace (the war of 1898 requiring no great exertion) the United States sent a great army to Europe, and a powerful fleet, both were found to be well-equipped in every detail, modern and efficiently supplied. There was some early criticism of the army ordnance, but none of the navy's. The Army needs, were of course, multiplied many times by the War.

[At Caporetto Austro-Germans broke Italy's lines, drove her army many miles, took Udine.]



BOOK II

OUR INNINGS

Western Army

ENTOMOLOGY OF CAMOUFLAGE

Paris, Sept. 3, 1917.

France is mos' normal oncet mo'; leastways, she seems to be, this fur from the region of shot-to-pieces villages and kentry ripped up by shell-holes and trenches, they are even resummin the aunty-bellum custom of exchangin ministries oncet in so often, or twicet, rather.

M. Ribot, who wears whiskers all over his face, was replaced as premier by M. Painleve, a much younger man, who wears only a moustache. So fur as I kin learn, they wan't nawthin agin M. Ribot barrin the situation that the mo' younger men, who boss this war, are agin whiskers, bein ez how they seem to transform a comparative youthful statesman into a back-number prematoorly old. Ribot is not a back-number, but one of the greatest French ora-

tors, a able and patriotic statesman, and has an army of friends yet, if his whiskers haven't.

The new premier is M. Panlevay (Painleve), which is French fur a kind of bread we don't often git.

Next Paris had a street-car strike.

And now the ladies from Cuby, Argentine, England and U.S.A. is flockin to Paris to buy dresses, millinary, lingerie, jest ez in the brav' days of old, ef not so many. A millionaire lady from New York, attended only by a maid and show-fear, smiled pleasant at me on the rue de la Paix. She is a member of the well-known — fambly, and had'nt nawthin on but gray. [British Americans in Paris spells it grey.] She looked like Martha (Dandridge Custis) W2shington or a student at BrynMawr in grey, and as nice as she could be.

It hez been known for aeons that women hez mo' passive courage than men. Ef she bez the price, and kin find a ship, all the under-sea boats afloat kaint keep her 'way from Paris. I shouldnt wonder if some of 'em hoofed it in from——Bordeaux !

Ez I was sayin, but forgot to say, the couleur de style fur next year is black trimmed with white. Grey aint so fashionable, and is the one other color permitted. If them dark-eyed ladies from Cuby and elsewhere don't look fetchin in

black trimmed with white, I aint no jedge. I see khaki is confined to folks ez hez relations in the army needer than second cousius.

Paris, too, is reaching out for the argent [money] of visitin Himericans in her same old cheerful, debonair way. Strictly and literally, argent means silver, but in truly French life is made to kivver also gold, which in some parts of Paris is much preferred. Our five and ten dollar gold pieces is greatly admired; they even 'llow that the tame Rozyvelt eagle looks handsome and intelligent, and it beats all how rapid Parisians learns the value of our coin. It takes us a heap longer to get onto commodity prices here: some things sells shockin low, others viva voce, which is the opposite.

[In 1892, two John A. Taylors helped to get Lewis county, Wash., her sheer in politics. John A. Taylor, Mayor of Centralia, was a Democrat. John A. Taylor, of Adna, was a Republican stand-by, and was cheerman of the county convention, which voted to omit calling the roll of precincts on a certain question. The Cheerman rose:

"Gentlemen of the Convention: On this question, the vote will be vice versa!"]

When Peggy and Sallie was in Paris in '13, I enj'yed one evening at the Cabaret of the Six Hundred and Four Murders on Montmartre.

One evening recent I went to the same quiet ramshackle place not fur from the Boulevar' de Clichy, which is the Brodwy of Moufmartre. Its name has been changed to Maison de St. Josephus, in deference to Himerican and British prejudice, and probly in honor of Secret'y Dan'ls, to fool the Marines, but it was the same inside, barrin a few fresher-faced ladies. In '13 black and white was rulin mode in women habbytoos ef not yet in clothes—black eyes and hair, and faces mos' pow'ful white. This trip I was settin nice and quiet at a little table. In all Paris ye kaint buy whisky or vermouthe or absinth after nine-thirty, nawthin but light wines, champagne and sich. At the neerdest table set a little beauty, with a form like Psyche's, eye like Venus's, and a voice like the Goddess of Music's—I disremember her name jest at this juncture. With her was a habbytoo of about eighty year but built powerful. He was in black and white, too—dark black soot, dull black face an' hands, bris'lin white ha'r, and white shirt-front. He 'minded me some of Alexandre Dumas (the Biggest) and some of Honore de Balzac. All to oncet the little lady she took a XXXX wallet-flap bond envelope from her corsage, or vest-pockit, gazes at a photygraft, and kisses it with abandon, passion. Her escort he draws a big hunting knife, and grabs her by the hair. She gives me one terrified implorin look: When in doubt, spring to the rescue. I sprang, interposin my horse-shoe in arm to stop the blow, at the same time quailin

him with my hazel eye. The lady clang to my left arm in terror, the horchestra struck up a merry valse; and she steered me out on the floor, missin every mother's son of a table, and me goin' on 69!

When she pushed me into my cheer she says:

"Ze champagne, it is five dollars, now."

"Jewhillikins! four years ago it was only \$4.

"It is ze high cost of livin. I will tell you a sekert: It was a Frame-up. He taught me the frame-up." Then she showed me the photy-graft, portrait of a wealthy Himerican writer, on the staff of ——'s, with his autograft, brazen as brass.'

"The on-velope won't wear out soon," I says, dry-like.

"Le soldat American, I adore him."

"Them's regulars: jest wait till ye see our drafted men. I know one that's worth a million dollars, and ye wouldn't think he had a thousand, the way he behaves: he's so modest.

In "Peggy McCann" I informed Peggy, as we wandered in a beautiful cemetery, that the wealthy, livin' and dead, takes to the high ground jest ez they did in the days of Noah."

Above aint true consarnin Montmartre, tho of they'd sava their money, they'd be rich in time, those on the bouleva' anyway. Mont-

martre, I cal'late, is the highest p'int or hill rather, in Paris, and has the best view of the most interestin part. No rich folks has their homes—are with theirselves—theh as yet.

One day, when '88 was fadin into '89, Uncle Blair was on root to Frisky. He see on the train a man that minded him some of Joaquin Miller, and some ways of the Prophet Jonah. He was goin to get off at Weed, where they wan't no fish big enough to swoller him. His h'ar was long, and curled on his neck, and his whiskers were copious and gray. He set on me a warnin eye, and quoted from the Gospel of and acordin' to St. Luke the Beloved Physician [Not in King Jeem's version]:

San Francisco, thou that stonest the prophets
And persecutest them that are sent unto thee:
How oft would I hev gethered thy children
together,

Even as a hen hovereth her chickens under her
wings;
But ye would not."

San Francisco allers did have a gay, don't give a dang way with her Jonahs, like a balky but beautiful and charmin' lady.

"Young man," says old Dyodgenes, "ye'll live to see grass growin in the streets of San Francisco."

That was some years befo' automobileels come

into vogue. In less 'n 3 days Uncle did see grass growin' in the streets of The City, on a south "slope," south front, I mean, of Nob Hill, growin' in between the cobble-stones of Mason, from Sooter, and Post, too, to California. He never see no delivery wagons climb that hill, and he often set and wondered how Flood, Fair, Mackay and O'Brien, Stanford and Hopkins and Crocker, got anything to eat.

Some places on the Butte of Montmartre calls to mind a few high-spots of Frisky; but some streets on the Butte I wouldn't climb for forty dollars at or after the witchin' hour of midnight—two or three dogs I don't like the looks of.

Diane 'llowed as how les soldats americaines is plumb anxious to speak the French, and learn so rappide. "Helas! it is I who could it teach, did I but know z'americaine, which you, Monsieur, speak so lovely."

To my mebbly too fastidious ear, the French our men pick up is too colloquial to comport with the dignity of Uncle Samuel. (Sammy is to my notion a mo' stately name than Tommy) The French language is gittin the worst of it in some pertioklers in this war, not doin as well as the army.

Take that word camouflage we hear so much. 'Taint in Surenne's big dictionary, leastways it wan't when I left home. Ef a word aint in the dictionary, dig fur its root, and git track of the

entomology of it. The root is the verb camoufler, which means to shake a piece of white paper in your face by way of insult, or to distract attention. Sometimes they'd set fire to the paper. In war-time brown paper will do. The word has been so jolted and jiggered by the war so's to mean any sort of disguise.

Big Dictionary Littre, the progress of whose 4-volume folios was noted by John Bigelow in his diaries, says:

"Camouflet rime avec traits, jamais, succes, paix." It also rime avec Littre.

In October, 184— the editor of Grayum's Magazine was settin' in his cheer when Edgar Allen Poe come in with a poem that was to have appeared in August, that the editor paid \$2 fur in July. The editor rose, took the poem, see that the poem contained six words barred in the magazine, then crumpled up and shook the poem in Poe's face. That was camouflage. Then he opened the door and threw Poe down stairs. Next, he threw the poem, fluttering, down-stairs after him; then he went down hisself, retrieved the poem, put in four or five amendings of his own that made Poe Crazy as a bed-bug, and run it in December.

It was way back in 14, not fur from the river Aisne, that a French officer was settin up a battery of 75's, and was pertickler anxious the crack German gunners shouldn't get a bead on him befo' he got his guns in position, so he tells a subordinate to climb a "rise" off to one side and distract the enemy's attention by

some kind of Camouflage. The officer clumb the one tall tree on the hill and begun usin the Chermin signal code, which allers made em hot: Pigs of Chermins, Down mit die Kizier, and the like. By and by or purty soon a big shell cut the tree off slick and clean, about ten foot from the ground. It fell so the leaves and branches hid the guns exactly. The chief congratulated his subordinate, who got only an arm and leg broke (in French) "The tree beat our Camouflage all to the Dickens!

So they called the tree-boughs they used ever after, and every other concealment, from a sprinkle of flour or a load of hay to a hand-painted mountain—Camouflage!

Whiskers and Motors

Inside the War Zone, Sept. 14, 1917.

In my last I jest tetched on the war 'twixt Whiskars and no Whiskers. It's too much like this war itself, most a toss-up. The British and French has been pushin em right along all summer in France and Flanders.

Battle on battle, victory on top of victory, altho some call the whole kit, the whole summer series, one battle, has gained sich a few miles, and they's sich a many mo' to go, befo' we gits to Berlin. Howsomever, if we kin jest hold 'em level on the long line, Lloyd George and Hoover will Win the War, and make Grub so skeerce fur the Chermins at home that they'll git diskerridg.

At a recent doins I observed that the men in the front row the Whiskers had one majority—about the same majority net that Sir Douglas has over the Chermins. M. Ribot stood nerd the middle, and was the tallest man of the bunch. He's over six foot high, stoops quite a bit, but has a fine face, a regal head.

He was the orator at the first celebration (the third anniversary) of the Battle of the Marne. His whiskers kivvers his whole face, and is 'most white.

President Poincare has whiskkrs, too, but not a full set, jest moustache and go-tea, neat-trimmed. He's a small man. Premier Painleve is a middle-size middle-weight, with a heavy, on-yeildin moustache.

Slathers of the French private soldiers is at present wearin full-beard whiskers. It's a lot of trouble to keep track of a comb, but if he lose his, some kin git purty good, combin 'em out with theh fingers.

Why, when Prince Arthur of Connaught was invited to inspect a batch of French soldiers (you bet it was a lot of the best) the man at the right end of the first file hed a fine, dark p'inted beard. The Prince, who is most tall as Abr'm Lincoln but right-smart better-lookin, don't wear no whiskers. His father the Duke aint so tall, nor quite so libel to let the troops know by his manner if they're lookin' well. The British, fur a fact, don't take to whiskers among theirselves. Most of their officers has a moustache, but they don't lay whiskers up against a Frenchman. I wear a perfickly smooth face, so that enemy or ally kin see all the lines and finger-prints of power and determination.

I had less trouble with the author'ties than most of the cor'spondents. The trouble with many of them they don't know nawthin of officialism at home,

The insolence of office, and the spurns
That conscious merit from the onworthy takes.

They've allers hed a cheap man or office boy
to deal with Federal officials and sich-like.
The time we hed a Democrat Postmaster at Blue
Eye, I went to the complaint window to buy 5
cents worth of stamps. The Postmaster was
settin in the back office doin' a sum. I waited
ten minutes while he never looked up.

Then he says: "Come around tomorrer."

"But I got to go to Bill Jasper's funeral."

"Well, next week, then," and kicked shet
the intervenin' do'.

The p'int is them officials aint got no compe-
tition. The great Chicago war correspondent,
Ring W. Lardner, when his train from sumwers
on the coast of France come to a good-sizable
town, seems like it was Orleans, he see on the
station, in bold type, a sign,

S O R T I E.

Ring took it fur the name of the town, and he
wrote about it in Collier's. Them bureaucrats
don't keer a dang if you git in or not, so they
aint no sign, "Entrance," but a mighty plain
one to show you where to get out, or sortie.

My fine record as a pussyfooter, in Italy,

helped a lot. The Mar-Casey got me a recommend from the censor at Udine, who wrote,

"Ye kin trust Monsieur McCann. Entre nous, he is a pretty good censor hisself, and stands in, allers".

When I left Paris for the front, I went afoot, seein ez how some cor'spondents hez mo' troubl with motors than with 'ficials.

Pinned on my coat-bosom was the Tricolour, Old Glory, and my pass. About nine mile this side of sumwers, I see a cavalcade ahead, and heered a brave Himerican voice: "Whoa, Buck! Haw, there, Berry!" He wor standin up in his motor-keer, drivin a yoke oxens. He could crack a long whip-lash good. When I ketched up and passed him I smiles patternizin at his outfit, and he says:

"I say, old man, wot's the French fur Buck and Berry?"

"Try Dan and Gran' (daim et grain)."

"I kaint onderstand these French oxens," he adds, "or make them onderstand."

His team was wobblin and takin up a big sheer of the road: When he see a automobeel comin, he got out and pushed his oxens over with his hands. He was cor'spondent fur Indianapolis ———. The last I heered of him was "Jee, Dan!" some forty rod back.

They aint no mountings in this part of the

French Republic, so they planted a row of poplars along the big road, like they used to plant wind-breaks in Newbrasky, to keep the private soldiers' whiskers from blowin' away.

I cal'late they've been rentin out condemned cars to correspondents. In the dusk an' drizzle last evening I run onto a broken-down motor that blonged to two cor'spondents. They'd got somehow two horses and hitched em to it. The horses was stuck fast between two trees on the left-hand side of the big-road. I see they had run right-hand rein of each horse thro the neck yoke ring!

"What in Sam Hill did ye do that fur?

"Thet's to keep em from gittin theh heads up and runnin' away."

In parting one thanked me, adding: "I used to know Richard Harding Davis."

Besieged is Lost

SORTIE (a good-sized town on the Railroad—
Please thank the man who sent me a Collier's,
with Mr. Lardner's mention of this place.

Also to the lady who sent one of Ouida's
novels to the soldier who gave it to me. They
come in a box marked

"Keep in a Cool Place"

Some of the Stories in that box is mo' like to
'splode than any of Ouida's ef they git overhet.
They aint much chanst to git over-het in North
France this winter, tho it aint a bad winter,
compairin with the other three.

On the 25th of July, 1870, President Grant
was settin out on the piazza of his cottage at
Long Branch, in New Jersey, when Phil Sheri-
dan come up, saluted, and shook hands. Phil
'llowed he had some thoughts of a v'yage
to Europe, ez how he might get some new pints
from the Franco-Prussian war jest started.

Grant he said nawthin, but smoked a couple of minutes longer, then he stepped into his parlor thro the long, low windows, pulled a cheer up to his writin desk, and writ a letter of introduction informin the crowned haid of Europe that Sheridan was "one of the bravest and most skillful soldiers developed by the late war in America." Then Grant took his cigar out of his mouth and 'llowed it was a fine day, but like as not pretty warm back in Perry county, O.," where Phil growed up, and was appinted to the Academy from.

The French high command wouldn't let Phil go with them, mebbey Napoleon III was skeert Phil might lead his Army into Poatsdam and git to be Philippe the Sixth. When Sheridan got to Berlin in August, evry danged crowned male head was out-o-town: when Moltky struck his tunin-fork, royal princes had to go, same as bricklayers. But the Queen of Prooshy (later Empress Augusty) invited him to the Palace, and made him tell her a little about Five Forks and Cedar Creek. He couldnt tell her about Sheridan's Ride, as he hadn't yet met Buchanan Read, the author. (He met Read in Rome the follerin winter, and spelled the name Reed in his Memoirs.) When he ketched up to Headquarters, he got solid by askin Bismarck wot clothes he ought to wear. Other visitors asked old Blut und Eisen things he dassent tell, und got snubbed: but, like many another big-bug, Bismarck prided hissself in things he was a amyttoor in, which shows Phil wan't no

Jay, but had the salve-for-fair of a highly-improved son of Irish parents. Old Wilhelm I. was chummy with him after bein' crowned Emprer in Looney Fourteen's famous old Palace of Vairsail, but he knowed he'd be solider by not braggin. They decided upon a Himerican fatiggg uniform, leavin off the sword to show he wan't one of the killers. He looked on at the great battle of Gravelotte (near our root to Coblenz) where he Probly see mo' actual killing than at Five Forks, havin more time to hisself: the charge of the French cavalry was magnificent to see

For one who had no friend, no brother there,

Ef it wan't Sheridan's way of usin cavalry; in all his born days he never sent horses up against solid lines of infantry—in 1862 he was a Quartermaster buying horses in Michigan and knowed how much they cost. Prooshin needle-guns brot down horses a long ways off. Even Hoover couldnt of bulldozed him to feed a off-duty horse corn. He was reckoned a favorite of Grant, but he had Grant beat, ez how he hed been a horse-buyer as above, was up north buyin fur the Army when Grant was fightin at Pittsburg Landin, danged close to the Landin. Sheridan's trooper knowed Little Phil woodnt send him out on a rheumatic horse, but wood buy him a good one. Then "Get there, my boy, or the firin-squad. Grant rode well and was a good jedge of horses, but undervalued cavalry. Meade had small use for mounted troops: when

Sheridan come East to command the cavalry, Army of the Potomac, he quarreled with Meade first thing about his cavalry corps. Meade was powerful sore when Lincoln and Stanton was so delighted at not havin to git out at midnight to man the forts no mo' that they made Sheridan a Major General of regulars ahead of Meade, for his victories in the Valley. Grant didnt recommend it, ez how he didnt want to hurt Meade's feelins; and he wouldnt let Sheridan ride in the Grand Review, ez how he ranked Meade, but hurried him off to Texas, to fight tarantulas and other insex.

This fur from a Cyclopedy, I furgit wot hero said, epigrammatically;

A besieged army is a lost army.

They don't do it no more. Even in our oncivil war, no city stood a siege after Vicksburg. Not one in Europe after Paris in 1870. In this war, the long line sways forward or back, but no army gits surrounded. Sheridan criticised modestly Bazaine for shutting up hissself and 180,000 men in Metz. If Metz was to be held at all, 25,000 could hold Metz jest ez well. It was easy as fallin' off a log to git recruits fur Grant's army after he got Pemberton penned up. Folks like to poke up and pester caged animiles.

Sometimes the best scholar pans out in truly

life pure gold. Lee graduated second in his class. I furgit who it was ranked above him. At West Point they used to put the best graduates in the Enginers; second, Artillery; 3d, Cavalry; 4th, Infantry Grant, Sheridan, Hancock, went to the Infantry. The Academy dous sent Sheridan home for a year, and it took him five years to graduate. Hancock had eighty-five demerits his first year, Lee ne'er a one. Geo. H. Thomas had jest got a job as deputy clerk in one of the Dismal Swamp counties of Virginia, not fur from Jerusalem Plank Road and the battlefields of Dinwiddie Court House and Five Forks. Like some parts of the county of Lewis in early days, plank roads was the only kind ye could tetch bottom on. Gen. Scott come from close by. Thomas's town was Jerusalem C. H. till the folks got tony and changed the name to Courtland. One day John Y. Mason, M. C. (not the Trent Mason, James M., but the one Charles Sumner made fun of fur gittin Empress Eugenie's playing-keerds all stained up with tobacco juice—He also was a diplomatist, minister to France, and died 1859—called. He admired Thomas's stalwart frame and offered him the 'pintment to West P'int; Thomas, on his way to West Point to be xamined fur cause stopped in Washington to thank Mason once mo', but Mason cut him short: "No cadet from my deestrick at West P'int ever graduated. If you don't I don't never want to see your face agin."

Thomas was pow'ful keerful to graduate 'bov

the middle. He got in the Artillery, but never went to see Mason agin.

Long after, at West Point, Prof. Mahan said:

"Of all our Generals, Thomas most resembled Washington in character."

Washington wouldn't a been best scholar. At Blue Eye we hauled our best scholar 'round spellin' down other of the deestrick schools. He got a school hisself, but the big boys put him out doors, which busted him fur teaching in that kentry.

Warren was a fine scholar, brave and skillful—but one patternizin, sarcastic retort to Sheridan about Bobby Lee was the cause of his losin his job at Five Forks, Sheridan was proud and mebbby a little tetchy about them good scholars. Meade said sumpin like it to Grant when U. S. G. took holt in '64.

War Back-Numbers

When U. S. A. declared war on Germany, April 6, 1917, the Allied armies of Britain and France had already begun their fourth campaign not far from the point on the west front reached by the Germans in 1914.

In three weeks of 1914, Aug, 4 to 26, the German invaders, entering via Luxembourg, had captured every important city of Belgium except Antwerp and Ypres. Liege, Bruges, Brnssels, Namur, Ostend fell in rapid order. Antwerp fell Oct. 9. Ypres remained in Belgian and British possession till the war's conclusion. The first battle for its possession lasted thirty one days, from Oct. 17 to Nov. 17, 1914. The second battle of Ypres lasted thirty days, from April 17 to May 17, 1915. With Ypres the Allies held a little strip, a few square miles, of Belgian territory.

Russia, against whom Germany's first declaration of war was launched, had a few surprising initial successes. Aug. 18 she invaded E. Prussia and threatened Koenigsburg, but was

driven back across the frontier, a month later. Russia celebrated St. Patrick's Day, 1915, by capture of Przemyśl, Austrian Galicia, but the Austrians recovered Lemberg and Przemyśl in June. Russians captured Ispahan March 19, and Trebizond April 17, 1916.

Aug. 23, 1914, the British and French fell back from Mons, Aug. 31 they halted at the Seine and Marne. Sept. 6-10 was fought the first battle of the Marne. The day before the battle, the French government removed to Bordeaux, and Oct. 13, four days after the fall of Antwerp the Belgian government moved to Havre. Oct. 16 to 28 was fought the battle of the Yser, and the progress of the Germans towards the English Channel was arrested by the ancient god Terminus.

On Nov. 5 Great Britain declared war on the Ottoman porte, bringing Turkey into the war. Dec. 17 Britain frankly assumed a protectorate over Egypt, replacing the old, cumbrous fiction. April 26, 1915, an allied force, for the greater part British and Australasian, landed on Galipoli peninsula, the Northern shore of the Dardanelles, to attempt the capture of Constantinople. Such was the bloodiest blunder. A relatively small Turkish force sufficed to hold the narrow approaches and to slaughter the assailers. On Dec. 19 the British began to evacuate the peninsula. Jan. 8, 1916, the evacuation was completed. The object was to use Britain's great

battleships. Even Turkish land fortifications, German-officered, were superior, and infantry assaults proved suicidal.

When Gen. Allenby, having conquered Palestine, approached through Syria, from the Asia minor side, Constantinople fell, easily, without another struggle or a groan, and the force outside her northern gate marched in and took possession, much as Gen. Weitzel took hold at Richmond in 1865.

The Transcript (Boston, U.S.A.) when some one remarked the slow progress of the British across the Desert of Sinai, cited the fact that Moses, Aaron and the soldiers of Israel took all of forty years to cross the same desert.

Lieutenant General Sir Archibald Murray, on June 18, 1917, found on arriving at the western border of the Promised Land of Canaan, that Gen. Sir Moses Moses was Murray's true ante-type, or prototype, maybe. Said the Angel to Moses: "Thou shalt not enter in." His orders said to Gen. Murray, worn and weary: "Turn over your command to Lieut. Gen. Sir Edmund H. H. Allenby" (a younger man.)

Allenby wasn't able to get results right this minute. Nearly all his transport, including 30,000 camels, had to go to his eastern army. Near the Dead Sea the Arabian Sherif of Mecea whom the British had foxily made King of Hed-

jaz, a thorn in the side (and back) of the Turk kept the latter busy. It was Oct. 31 when Allenby attacked and captured Beersheba the same day. Gaza, Samson's town, a strong place, fell Nov. 7; Jaffa, Nov. 17. Then he marched on Jerusalem, which ranks next to Mecca and Medina among the holy cities of the Turk, and he put up a stiff fight for it at El Mughir. Here Capt. Neil Primrose, son of Marquis of Rosebery, was killed. Allenby says "The Turk is a fine horseman and a fine shot, especially at longrange." Gen. Falkenhayn came from Aleppo to advise, but soon went away. Kress von Kressenstein, a Bavarian, commanded Turkish army. Djemel Pasha, commander-in-chief, was at Damascus. Jericho fell Feb. 23, 1918.

Damascus (275,000) surrendered Oct. 1, '18. Allenby entered the city that day, accompanied by his Arab ally, Emir Faisul. Allenby then withdrew, leaving the citizens in control.

Acre occupied Sept. 23.

Beirut occupied Oct. 8, '18.

The main reason Gen. Allenby got so much attention is folks knowed better his sphere of infloence. We all know Bethlehem and Jericho and Beersheba like we do Boston and Concord and Lexington and Bunker Hill, and there they will remain forever. He rescued the birthplace of the Infant Samuel, who was in mother's Bible Pictures. Ever since she told us about Little Sam, and good old Eli, we've

felt sore to know that his grave hed come to be a source of revenoo to onbelievers.

Heig and Pershing, Beatty and Sims, may have had mo' fightin to do, but readers of the paypers kin foller with their eyes shut Allenby and his camel-tracks to glory. They kaint do that on the Western Front, nearer home but still on-familiar.

Baghdad

THE capture of Bagdad, the city of the Kaiser's Wilhelm the Second's dream, the lately realized recently attained objective of the Bagdad railway went farther to show the impotence of the German state as colonizing, conquering world-nation than any other achievement of the War. It was essentially and exclusively a British and Irish and India campaign: 1915 and '16 showed the characteristic, bulndering unpreparedness—not the first time—of Britain in a great war; 1916 and '17 showed these errors doggedly, bravely, characteristically repaired. Britain's triumph, final and complete, came, 1917-18.

Baghdad was, you recall, the seat of the great Haroun al Raschid and lovely Zobeide.

Nov. 10-13, 1914, a British expedition sent out from India, captured Basra city, on a bayou (they might call it in Lousiana) in the delta of the Tigris and Euphrates, 55 miles inland from the Persian Gulf, a city of 50,000 Gen. Townshend proceeded up the Tigris in 1915. The army was imperfectly supplied, and

it is alleged that at a critical time of the early summer the medical service broke down completely, causing much unmitigated suffering.

The transport and supply service were vastly inadequate. Guns that were captured by Gen. Townsend in '15 were recaptured by the Turks in '16, and again captured by Sir Stanley Maude in '17. On April 26, 1916, Gen. Townshend was compelled to surrender the city of Kut and 9,000 men to the Turks.

After a brilliant strategic campaign, daring in conception and carried through to victory hardily without a skip or flaw, Sir Stanley and his men entered Kut on Feb. 24, 1917. Maude surprised the Turks by operating from the south side of the Tigris whence he crossed at the Shumran bend five or six miles up stream from Kut; Gen. Marshall's left, forcing passage over the swollen Tigris under heavy fire. At Sann yat, down-stream from Kut, Lieut. Gen. Cobbe Feb. 23 attacked to distract the enemy, developing a hard battle, attacking again 24th. Sir Stanley allowed no grass to grow under under his feet but kept the Turks going.

March 11 in a dust storm the British drifted into Bagdad, now a city of about 150,000, and took possession.

There was no triumphal entry.

Sir Stanley Maude had a more than common allotment of the British genius for dealing with

oriental peoples and religions. He was popular in Bagdad from the first, and it was in indulging his inclination to gratify the people that he met his untimely, lamented death.

London Times history says the only account of the tragedy is by "an American writer," a guest of Sir Stanley at the Residency, who accompanied the General to an entertainment given by a Jewish school. The Chief Rabbi of Bagdad, "black-bearded, in a white and gold turban" received them; the headmaster of the school, "a typical Bagdad Jew, with a French education and old-fashioned French manners, hovered about and showed his pleasure in the occasion." At the close a small table was brot, "and placed before the Army Commander and me, on which were two cups, a pot of coffee, a bowl of sugar and a jug of milk. The American drank his coffee "black," but, being an outlander, never thought to caution Sir Stanley, who poured into his coffee large quantities of the cold, raw milk.

In a few days (Nov. 19) the Army Commander was dead of cholera. He was succeeded by Sir W.R. Marshall, who finished ably the task Sir Stanley Maude had set himself. A remnant of the Turks reached Hamadan, Persia, 300 miles east by north.

The Times history says Sir Stanley's death was "a bitter blow to the army, by whom he was idolized. He had come to Mesopotamia

when the army was at its lowest ebb, and had bent himself to the work of reorganization thro the succeeding summer, and moved at last only when all was perfectly ready, and finally by his genius he had changed the whole face of affairs in Mesopotamia.

King George sent to the Army a telegram of sympathy. Nov. 25 a memorial service was held under the new Commander, who had been in Sir Stanley's confidence, had been in the hardest fighting before Kut. He was bitterly bereaved, and sore at the manner of the Army Commander's taking-off.

McCann for Governor of Palestine

Via Grapevine Wire (trellis) from Sumwers
December 14

Genial, glad-hand toorist-busters is the only people who kin make the Holy Land pay.

Ez soon ez I see that the Rt. Hon. the First Lord of the Treasury David Lloyd George hed assured Lord Rothschild that Palestine would be put under Jewish control, I forwards to D-Dowuing street a application for a p'ntment ez Guvner. I garntee a administration thet will knock the spots off the Guvner of Baritaria, the late Captain-General Pansy. I cal'late a sober second thought of each of these great men will conceiye the advantage of friendly nonpartisan (not neutral) control.

I fear the Himerican missionaries will refuse to undertake the conversion of the Guvner and

staff that might come out from— Britain. Paul, ye mind, took on Festus and Agrippa, but Caiaphas and Josephus he passed up, as too well-informed already.

My platform will be about as follers:

1. Start to oncet to re-build Solomon's Temple using only union labor;
2. No restriction on the sidewalk display of goods;
3. Money-changers may use Temple, but only before or after banking hours;
4. Interest charges on commodity or pledge loans to be governed by the law of supply and demand;
5. Statue of Thomas Cook at civic center;
6. Equestrian Gen. Allenby, in Park ben Eli;
7. Paintins of Lord Reading and Mr. Justice Brandeis in the Co't House;
8. Tooris and Gentiles pertected in free and on-restricted expenditure of their money;
9. In short, for one and all, an open Jerusalem, but not a Coney Island or anything cheap. There will be no attempt to divert travel from Mecca, Rome, Salt Lake, or any other Holy City.

As to my own qualifications:

I hev allers got my clothes of Israelites;
My great-grandmother was a Catholic;
I sympathize with the Zionists;
I am willing to j'ine the Armenians; but

The Greek Church is stronger in Jerusalem
And Methodis' in U. S. A.

Perhaps I better jine Babtis

But I leave all that to Lloyd-George, said to
be a Christian and admitted to 'ave the Say.

[Adv]

Jerusalem

[Adv

The Golden

Clothing House

\$10 Suits Reduced—Now

\$37.85

Why pay more?

Trade in Jerusalem

Uncle Blair's father was a friend of the editor of the Fort Madison Plain Dealer (another Wilson) who let him write a article for the Plain Dealer oncet in a while. Editor Wilson was thin and slim, and wo' spectacles for both readin' and lookin. Wilson was U.S.A. Consul at Jerusalem fur a long spell, and writ a book about the City of David, sooburbs, back kentry and adjacent—a standard authority.

The Wilson who kept the dry goods store seems like was the Consul's brother. He was rayther stout and prosperous-appearin.

At Springfield in 1868 they was talk of the Universalis' and Unitariums, and Hebrews, combinin' to fight Satan, bein' ez how neither the Jews nor the Unitariums kin onderstand

the doctern of the Trinity. And most all the Universalis was 'llowed to be Unitariums ez regards the Trinity, in addition.

[Seems like Universalis' is mo' skeerce now, which shows the world is growin worser and mo' in need of future punishment. It was a sad day and a crool loss fur Universalism, when Dr. Chapin died, of the Church of the Divine Paternity.]

Jest the other day I see a letter from Oakland sayin a leadin minister [First Congregational] hed announced a sermon, tentativ-like, it might be about time for a reunion of Catholic and Protestant [on a basis of city and county politics, mebbey.]

It do seem that now, goin-on two thousand years after the Death on the Cross, speshil as He said "Forgive them!" right at the time, Jews and Christians may jine hands acrost the Holy Sepulchre, and perceed to make the low-lyin valley of the Jordan to blossom like the Rose of Sharon, or like a field of fairy Flax, or more beautiful yet, a field of Buckwheat in bloom, all reinforced with fertilizer from (South) Himerica. It is dazmlin and wondrous to see, when the cloud shadows chase each other acrost a field of flowering buckwheat,* but buckwheat and flax is both pow'ful severe on land. And

*Peggy—"Buckwheat cakes in bloom! Fine."

the Land of the Moabites to flow with milk at fourteen cents a quart, and honey at *fifteen cents a pound, like it come in the days of the Army Commander, Joshuway, vice Moses excluded.

We git along right nicely with both of the Senators from Massachusetts, also with Editor of Boston Transcript, spite of theh folks hangin Quakers, and all kinds of Noncomformists, a heap more recent.
—Ben McCann.

The "bayou" mentioned on p.144 is the Shat el Arab, into which flow Tigris and Euphrates. The Shat empties into Persian Gulf.

*The California retail price prior to 1916. For one day only at 15 cents retail in 1917.

Bad News from Italy Von Hutier Charges

The victorious progress of our Allies did not proceed as smooth as I calculated it would. My friend the Mar-Casey writes me for the first in a year. He's sorry, but been so danged busy—savin his own hide and his own liberty! In October and November he and Gen. Cadorna have been shot across the Isonzo, the Stabba, the Tagliamento, the Zellina, the Sile, the Meduna and the Piave, with great velocity and speed, accompanied by their own noble army, and hotly pursued by a pow'ful Austro-German and both armies a-straddle of the Brenta in spots. The Mar-Casey says the retreat was the worst so far: the only thing that saved the Italian army was the coolness and devotion of the men and officers.

If Germans had a chance for final victory, the coming man is Gen. von Hutier. I spelt his name Huter in a former letter: have since

diskivvered that he is of French descent, may be from one of them Huguenots that helped to set Berlin ahead, after Looney Quatorze hed busted Henri Quatre's pledge and exiled 'em. He captured Riga Sept. 5 (1917) and they say his campaign was a top-notch. Then they sent fur him to come and drive the Mar-Casey. On August 9th, 1916, the latter and Cadorna, after a year's efforts took [Gorizia] and the Italians kep' pushin theh line steady eastward, as well as south towards Trieste. On Oct. 24, '17, the Foe started his big drive. Caporetto, on the Isonzo, 35 mile north of Gorizia (58 from Treste) was hit hard, and there the crack divisions under von Hutier broke the Italian line. Such a rain of shells Caporetto before had never seen, nor so dark a smoke-barrage, from which emerged, treble quick, the famous "solid formation." The Italian Third Army could not stand against it, and started for Udine, the Italian field headquarter, twenty miles away to the rear. On beyond Udine the Third Army marched all night, twenty miles more, to stand at Tagliamento river. Hence they were forced on, twenty miles farther, acrost the Livenza and Piave. Venice was in danger, and many paintings and statues were sent to Rome. The armies were in the low lagoon-lands, in water "up to their necks," for weeks. The campaign ended in the same old place, near the eastern border of Sette Comuni, in late December.

In November, British, French and American

troops came to the assistance of Italy. Gen. Cadorna retired to the Allied War Council at Paris. He was succeeded by Gen. Diaz, who was only 56, and had entered the war in command of a division.

In March, 1918, the Germans tried vonHutier and his system against Sir Douglas Haig and Gen. Petain, commanding the British and French armies in France. Sir Douglas Haig reported to the British army council that he had information or that there were indications of a determined German attack about March 20th, directed either against Calais, to cut off the British communications with England or to interpose between and French armies. The latter proved to be the true objective.

Early in December it had been decided that the Allies must confine themselves to the defensive until the arrival of the Americans in sufficient numbers to bring the war to decisive swift conclusion. This, stated in the London Times history, suffices to justify the tremendous force organized in America and dispatched to Europe.

Between the first of November and the first of March, the Germans drew 28 divisions from the Eastern front and 6 from the Italian. On March 21, the Germans had 192 divisions on the line facing Haig and Petain. The German divisions had been reduced from ten to nine

regiments each. Haig's divisions had been reduced, each from thirteen to ten battalions.

The first attack of the Germans March 21 was between the river Sensee and the Oise, by the 23 divisions under von Hutier, whose left faced the junction of British and French, 23 of 40 divisions on the left of the 54-mile line between the Sensee and the Oise. The Fifth army, Gen. Gough, held Haig's right, and the Third army, Sir Julian Byng, Haig's left. The First army was still nearer Belgium, on Byng's left, still farther north.

As usual, the Germans were bountifully supplied with artillery:

von Hutier had 900 A.K.A. or heavy battering guns, to destroy trenches, silence big guns.

1,200 I.K.A. or Infantry battering guns, for attacking infantry, 480 heavy guns, and a large number of trench mortars.

At the right, next north of Hutier's twenty-three divisions, were eighteen divisions under von Below. DeMarwitz commanded Hutier's right, von Boehn his left.

The attacking force comprised four armies and sixty-four divisions, and fourteen divisions in reserve.

Arriving troops were detrained some distance

behind the lines, for secrecy, and the divisions marched to the front.

The battle-front of a German division was commonly about 2,000 yards, and several lines deep, in two battalions; 1st, a line with light machine guns, each machine man carrying a parabellum pistol, .28; behind this a line of infantry; then more machine guns; then battalion headquarters, with light trench mortars.

The orders for March 21 were for a general attack westward toward Boulogne and Abbeville—Von Hutier's 23 divisions attacked:

11 in front, 8 in support, 4 in reserve;

21 divisions attacked the Fifth army. All arrivals were timed for the night of March 20; at dawn was a general attack on 54 miles of line held by British Fifth and Third army. By noon two breaches in the line of the Fifth Army. At that (south) end the fighting was hard all day. The French Sixth Army, continuing eastward the Fifth army's line, was attacked before dawn. French Sixth army was able to send one division (125th) to help Sir H. Gough's Fifth army.

Before 5 a. m. gas and high explosive shells rained on the Fifth and Third army from the Scarpe to the Oise. By this time says the historian hitherto quoted (Times): poison gas was dispensed only in shells. The bombardment was the most furious that Sir Douglas Haig's

army had ever experienced. Gas clouds such as were used in '15, were subject to winds, and the shells could be thrown much farther.

All British communications were severed in a short time by the bombardment.

Like the war itself as a whole, every detail of the attack seems to have been programmed and arranged for beforehand. The preliminary bombardment was to last five hours.

The creeping barrage began at the time for the infantry attack, and was started 330 yards in front of the British lines automatically, and was put forward 220 yards every four minutes. Variations and delays were arranged for.

Infantry attacks were to be accompanied by low-flying airplanes. On the 21st a thick white fog favored the German attack. They used smoke barrages also, where efficacious.

The first successes of the Germans were at the left and extreme right of the British line. The lines were but a short distance apart, the fire from the A.K.A. guns had beaten down the British entanglements, "and it was a short push for the Germans to be in our weakly-held front line."

At 4 p. m. the Germans captured Quessy at British extreme right, but the commander at Tergnier defied them. Villeret-Faucon, Haricourt on the left, Doignies and Louverval, and a few other villages, fell to the Germans.

At 4 a. m. of the 22d the Germans attacked

again. Again a thick mist favored them. As they came on in massed formation, a French officer of the 125th exclaimed: "What a slaughter, if our artillery had been in line!"

The French Government ordered their First army to be brought up, and placed between the British Third and Fifth armies.

According to Sir Douglas Haig's report, to meet the German attack in this battle, the British had only one division to each 6,700 yards of line.

The Germans took Levegneur at 10 a. m., and St. Emilie and Villers the same day.

At nightfall the Germans captured Pouilly, opening a gap between the British 50th and 61st Divisions. The Germans poured thro' and penetrated the British third defense line near Vaux and Beauvais. All the men available of the Fifth army had been sent in, and Sir Hubert Gough, on the 23d, was compelled to retire to bridgehead positions on the Somme, a retreat necessitating a night march of 10 or 12 miles.

The Germans followed closely, as they had followed up every drawing back during the battle, and there was sharp rear-guard fighting all the way.

Peronne bridgehead had to be abandoned.— On the 23d, near the junction of the Third and

Fifth army, Germans broke the line, and drove the British west of Peronne.

The German Supreme Command that night called the battle "the greatest defeat in history," claimed a gain of 700 square miles." "The Crown Prince, with the army of von Hueter, has forced a passage of the Somme below Ham. Bapaume fell in a night battle. The English, French and Americans were thrown back late the evening of the 23d."

Germans took Nesle by storm the 23d.

The British authority suggests the French assistance should have been interspersed among the British regiments. That, "anyway, would have slowed down the retreat."

At dawn on the 24th, Germans entered Bus, Lechelle, Le Mesnil, Arrouisse, Rancourt and Clery. British had to abandon Bertincourt, in drawing back the Third army to line with the Fifth army, which had been forced back.

Von Hutier arrived at the bank of Somme south of Peronne, broke the British line, and crossed at Pargny, Germans pouring through a gap between 8th and 20th divisions. The 8th was forced to fall back, and the 20th had a difficult retreat to Guiscard. British Sixth cavalry division assisted ably. French support was used freely. The 9th French division held a line ten miles long. On north bank of Somme Germans were repulsed. The night of the 24th and 25th

the fighting was almost continual.

The Germans took three towns west of the Libremont Canal.

Gen. Foch had collected a force of 70,000 in the rear of the Sixth army, barring the road to Paris. The defense westward was weak, and the Germans got within six miles of Amiens.

-March 23 Berlin claimed that in the three days they had captured 25,000 prisoners and 400 guns and 300 machine guns. March 25 the Aliies had lost 45,000 men, and 600 guns.

March 28th Germans took Montdidier.

The same day the Turkish army in Mesopotamia was wiped out. On the same date Gen. Foch was made commander in chief of all the Allied armies. Foch was successful from the first: there was never again such lack of teamwork among the Allies as had been apparent during the Drive toward Amiens.

On the 29th, its last day, the Germans bulletin claimed the capture of 70,000 prisoners. On the 1st day of April the British held their line at all points. The Drive was ended.

Gen. Debeney's First army came by train from Toul in the Argonne, east by south of Verdun, where several American divisions took the place of the first army.

The British writer who described the retreat across the Somme estimated the Americans in

France at 220,000 men. These were posted mostly east and south of Rheims.

If the British Army Commander had but one division to $3\frac{3}{4}$ miles of line, where were all the great British levies of four years? Scattered in every war-zone?

April 1st the French army chiefs estimated the German losses in eleven days at 275,000 to 300,000 men.

April 12th Sir Douglas Haig exhorted his British: "All positions must be held to the last man."

Last Weeks

On April 3d 40,000 Germans landed in Finland, and on the 13th occupied Helsingfors, the capital.

April 5th, a year after America declared war, the United States had under arms, fully equipped, 1,500,000 men.

On the 12d of April, Baron Reichtofen, one of the most brilliant young German aviators, with a record of eighty air victories, was killed in England. He was buried in London with full military honors.

On the 25th of April, a French division maneuvered and fought its way into Hangard.

On the 16th of June reports from Italy were to the effect that the Italians aided by U. S. A. French and British troops, had regained all of the places captured by the Austro-Germans, except a few points on Piave river. This leaves Udine and places on Tagliamento and Isonzo rivers still in the grip of Austria.

On the 25th of April in the Reichstag Gen.

von Risberg reported that on March 24 the total Missing from the German armies was as follows:

Total German missing—664,104

Of these were the following:

Prisoners in France—236,676

Prisoners in England [Scotland] 119,000

Prisoners in Russia and Roumania 157,000

Remainder, probably dead—161,428

Seemingly, Italians took no prisoners.
No quarter!

On the 12th of July Nicholas II, abdicated Czar of Russia, was murdered by his guards at Ekaterinberg.

In July the Germans agreed to an exchange of prisoners with Britain. Commanders of U-boats (submarines) were not included.

In the last German drive, on July 18th, the city of Soissons fell, with 30,000 prisoners. It August, 1914, it had been attacked by the Germans, and had been actually besieged or on the firing-line ever since. Rheims, more-famous neighbor of Soissons, the French were to maintain possession of throughout the war.

Soissons was the Enemy's last Capture in France, May 30, 1918. (Allies regained Soissons July 18.) In this drive Germans penetrated to

a few miles nearer Paris than they had been able to proceed in August, 1914, but few were those nearer miles indeed. The March offensive had shown the German army still strong enough to make headway against the British and French. In the June-July campaign the Americans were given an important share of the fighting, their first serious work in quantity.

The German commanders reported that the Americans were not inferior to the more veteran allies. At that date were 2,000,000 U.S.A. troops equipped and under arms. More than a million American soldiers were now in France and a million more would be in Europe as the transports were able to bring them. America had at her command a transportation service such as had never for capacity been approached—never before had a third as many men been transported so far at sea.

In the nineteen months from the Declaration of War, April 6, 1917, to the Armistice Nov. 11, 1918, the Army sent to Europe 2,075,834 men and 5,153,000 dead-weight tons of cargo for the Army the Embarkation service. Somewere about one-half the ships used in this service were supplied by the ship owners and Government of Britain.

The Army, until recently proportionately the smallest in the world, was increased to be one

of the most numerous and best equipped. The number of men in the Army June 1, Sept. 1 and Nov. 1, 1918, was as follows:

In U.S. and Possessions	In Europe	Total	
June 1, 1918	1,390,000	722,000	2,112,000
Sept. 1.....	1,425,000	1,576,000	3,001,000
Nov. 1.....	1,672,000	1,993,000	3,665,000

[World Almanac]

If need be, our army in Europe could be increased from Two Millions (without making such effort as France and Germany had already made, without taking one man older than 31) to Three Millions, from men fully armed and equipped; organized, ready to embark.

A British estimate placed the losses of Sir Douglas Haig's command from March 26 to May, at 250,000.

April 18th, 15 French planes dropped tons of bombs on the German bivouacs in vicinity of Ham, Guiscard and Noyon.

June 9-12 the German drive between Noyon and Montdidier netted 15,000 prisoners and 150 guns.

On June 15, Gen. March reported 800,000 U. S. troops in France.

On July 16, Herbert Hoover said that U.S.A.

sent \$1,400,000,000 of food to the Allies during the year.

On the 20th of July the American troops had taken 17,000 prisoners and 560 guns.

On June 10 Berlin claimed capture of 75,000 prisoners up to May 27 in west front.

July 24 the total German losses since the beginning of Foch's drive are alleged at 180,000.

Aug. 5 American troops land at Archangel.

Aug. 28th the Americans and Allies in the last eight weeks captured 102,000 prisoners and 1,300 guns.

Aug. 28th French recapture Roye.

Aug. 31.—British capture Mt. Kemmel.

On Sept. 7th the Germans began a general retreat on a 100-mile line from Arras-Cambrai to Rheims. British advanced nine miles from the Somme.

Sept. 22 Allenby advanced beyond Nazareth, taking 18,000 prisoners.

Oct. 1.—Allenby captures Damascus and 7,000 Turkish troops. Since Sept. 20 Allenby marched 150 miles, captured 58,000 prisoners, destroyed three Turkish armies. He left the great old famous city in the keeping of its old officials, whose loyalty to the Sublime Porte had failed sometimes, and marched westward to Beirut, a seaport that is much nearer both Damascus and Bagdad than is Constantinople

or Smyrna. Hence Beirut's great promise. Gen. Allenby advanced from Damascus Oct. 5, and occupied Beirut three days afterward, taking 15,000 more prisoners, "making 71,000, besides 8,000 claimed by the Arab army."

In October, 1919, commemorating Allenby's return to England, London Punch pictured him in armor, upon a sturdy English mount, as The New Crusader:

"Singing from Palestine, Hither I come,
Lady love, lady love, welcome me home.

Britannia—I do indeed, with all my heart !

"For he is an English man" made Allenby still more dear to the heart of London.

It was on the 30th of May, Decoration Day in America, that Germans captured Soissons. July 18 the city was retaken by the Allies. On July 19 the Germans recrossed the Marne in retreat towards the Rhine.

Oct. 6. Germans retreat on a 28-mile front in Champagne. On the same day, Germany's new Chancellor, Prince Max of Baden, asked President Wilson to aid in restoring peace.

Oct. 10 British take Cambrai, and two days later Servians recapture Nish.

Oct. 16, British cross the Lys headed toward

the Rhine instead of westward as formerly.

On Oct. 17 the Allies entered Bruges, Lille and Ostend, and the Germans retreated from the Belgian and French front from the North Sea to the river Sambre.

Oct. 22 the British cross the Scheldt north of Tournai.

In the four days ending Oct. 25 the Allies took 15,000 prisoners. The German killed and wounded totaled 50,000.

Hungary agrees to all peace terms of the Allies including Czecho-Slovak and Jugo-Slovak independence.

Oct. 31. Italians advanced in 54 divisions.

Nov. 1. Socialist republic was proclaimed in Vienna.

Nov. 3 the Italians occupy Trent.

King Albert enters Oudenarde and Ghent.

Austria accepts Armistice terms with immediate withdrawal from North Sea-Switzerland line. Half of equipment to be surrendered.

Nov. 5. Pershing advances on both banks of the Meuse.

Nov. 7—Americans capture Sedan.

Nov. 9. Kaiser William II abdicates and retires to Holland.

Herr Ebert becomes German chancellor.

Nov. 10—King William II of Wuertemburg abdicates.

Vienna and Neustadt airplane hangars burn.

Victor Immanuel of Italy makes triumphal entry into Trieste.

Nov. 11. Germans sign Armistice at Senlis.

On the day of the Armistice, the Grand Duke of Mecklenburg Schwerin abdicated, Grand Duke of Oldenburg was dethroned. Each was a component of the passing German Empire. On that day also, Field Marshal von Hindenburg placed himself and the army at the disposal of the new German Republic.

King Friedrich-Augustus of Saxony was dethroned that day.

On the first day of December the Americans crossed into (Rhenish) Prussia at Treves.

The British advanced toward the Rhine at Cologne.

On the 2d of December, King Nicholas of Montenegro was dethroned by the skupshtina. Nicholas was father of the Queen of Italy, consort of Victor Immanuel II.

Dec. 3. Americans under Gen. Pershing took up a line of six miles with Coblentz in center, at the confluence of the Moselle and Rhine.

Dec. 8 Gen. Petain became Marshal of France.

George, Albert, Raymond

His Excellency, the President of the French Republic, come down this-away quite recent to hold a inspection. M. Poincare on view follers the mode of Abram Lincoln and wears a plug hat (Lincoln called it a stove-pipe—same as top-hat among our allies in London. He looks good in it, but better yet in the cap he wears when prowlin round the aidges, Our great Emancipator never looked mo' awk'rd than when he come in 1862 to visit the Army of the Potomac and they put him on a middlin strong but low-set horse so the President wouldn't git hurt if the horse throwed him, so Abram's No. 12 hoofs 'd clear the ground by ten inches. Fact is, ole Abe could stick on a horse as good as most of the cavalry. The stove-pipe was mos' tremenjis high—the same danged hat he used to kerry his law-papers and letters and jack-knife in, out in Springfield.

British House of Commons is the oldest livin exemplar of legislative Power, the Roman senate havin' gone out of business some time sence. The craze for precedent raised a host of

imitators. You all have see how funny was the efforts of sundry Himericans to make our Cabinet comprise the majority leaders and prize orators, but both our houses persisted in sendin fur cabinet ministers and examinin like bank clerks or army contractors. Our Cabinet represents only the President and pays no special attention to Congress.

The French hed see thet to make a Cabinet pow'ful they'd hev to cut off the President as a party. So M. Poincare is non-partisan and has not many active duties: He holds the reins, but holds 'em easy when one Cabinet goes out till the 'other comes. Other times, he shows hisself to the people, entertains, makes speeches of occasion and the like, and does as much like a King of England [Scotland and Ireland] as a Frenchman kin. He gits a lot mo' salary than the Premeer, and usual holds the job longer. The President is elected fur seven years; but I doubt if the French cabinets sence 1872 have lasted seven months on an average. M. Clemenceau has held now sence Nov. 13, '17. To make an active French statesman President is right smart like kickin a leader of the House of Commons up into the House of Lords.

Fur some time, before he got took as Premeer, M. Clemenceau had been runnin on his newspaper a sarcastic sub-heading "The Man Chained." I bet his L'Homme Libre is chained tighter now than ever before.

Why, it got so long sence in Britain a leader

of the opposition hed to be as keeful most as the Premeer 'bout keepin his mouth shet. The sure way to learn the 'British system is to go aver the bumps like the British done long ago and is still doin.

Kings George and Albert appeared in uniform. Albert still works at bein King, leastways while the War lasts; but George's Empire is too vast; he has to content hisself with a general overseein. George looks to me like he'd make a good commander-in-chief ef he had the chanst. The quiet way he listens when 'is Generals is 'splainin things minds me of Gen. Grant, minus (leastways in public) Grant's cicar. Perhaps, when they're in the royal tent or wicky-up——

Beside Meade, Thomas, Hooker, Sherman, Hancock, Burnside, Logan, Rawlins, Grant seemed small. One day in peace time Napoleon reached fur a book on a shelf. One of his Marshals obtained the book and gave it to the Emperor,

"Pardon, I am taller than your Majesty."

Napoleon eyed him stern. "You are longer."

True, King George was trained fpr the Navy. So was Admiral Blake trained far the Army. George II fit well, and no Scot dreamt of

of fightin the English after George II's 2d son, Cumberland.

Uncle Blair's poem, which I jest see, shows the origin of Kings. all fighters to start with:

The drudging Tasks by great men shirked
Were not escaped without a fight
Then they, while their companions worked,
Slept safely, soundly, thro the night.

Then folks let 'im be King, perferrin to work rayther than fight any more.

Albert, to borrow the phrase of a best seller, is generally well-liked. To my eye he is very Chermin in appearance ef he was the man who gave the bugle-call that brought in Britain and U. S. A. and sounded the keynote of the war that upset the Chermin empire, and sent adrift the Hohenzollerns.

His folks of course come from Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, which is a good part of Doychland, alias Germany. His grandfather was the first King of Belgium, and his great uncle Albert married Queen Victoria.

Albert's uncle, Leopold II, was the best business man that ever wore a crown at home and a top-hat in Paris. Belginn was prospris, and done a big biznez fur one of her size, wa'nt taxed so heavy as some fur the Army, and was Dooley envied by her neighbörs. When war come it cost like fury, so prudent Albert

worked at bein' king hisself to save the hire of one bar-tender. Albert is the only royal suvrin that rides habitual in the airyplane. and hez the skill to run his own plane. Endurin the war, he done any kind of man's work, from commandin a brigade to holdin a council of War. He suffered equal privations with his men, and is a truly soldier.

If looks were all, King George'd do fine fur a President. A top-hat becomes him great, and fits his figger better 'n Leopold's did his.

Historic Belgium

This war, somehow, with it smoke barrages: khaki, we kind o' miss the brass buttons, the bright blue uniforms and flashin bay'nets of old times.

One hot night in July, '63, old Grandmother Reinhart was dreamin of the time she was a girl in Clarion county. She drempt she was a-makin peach-butter. A noise in the big road woke her up, and she looked out the winder. Fur up the big road, fur ez her old eyes could see, shimmered and shone the bright muskets of A. P. Hill's corps, goin back to ole Virginny after the shindy at Gettysburg; She looked fur quite a spell. "I 'llow that's the war Isaac was tellin' about yesterday, when he brung in Gov. Curtin's handbill rousin the men folks to expel the invader."

Hill's corps was famous for "bright muskets and ragged uniforms."

No mo' bright muskets in this war anymore.

Even the bay'nets are blued dull. You could git mo' fightin them days fur a dollar than ye kin this war fur ten dollars.

Ef it wan't fur the on-parallelled high cost of this war, the big raise in the price of smokin' tobacco, flour, and other on dispensable necessities, lots of round-hyah folks wouldnt allow it is much of a war.

In 1871 they was a fight at Hornet's Nest spelling school consarnin Lanningham's New Departure. Bill Jasper was a witness. Jedge Purdy questioned Bill:

"Did yo' see de fight, Misteh Jaspeh?" "No.

"Did yo' hear de fight?" "No, suh."

"Did yo' smell de fight?" "No, suh."

"Yo' kin step down, Misteh Jaspeh."

[Clement L. Vallandigham was one of the extreme peace Democrats or Copperheads. When a candidate for Governor of Ohio in 1863 he was one of a few arrested and sent thro the lines. In 1871 he astonished the country by promulgating a "New Departure." Under it the Democrats were urged to accept the results of the war, the XIII, XIV and XV Amendments, with Freedom, Equal rights, and the Ballot for the Negro. A few weeks later, in his home city of Dayton he was defending in court a fellow citizen accused of murder. His theory was the corpus delicti or victim accidentally had shot himself. He was rehearsing before his colleague

endurin the noon recess, when the pistol went off and writ "The End" to his Life. He was too anxious and literal a illustrator. He wa'nt goin' to give that jury no room for a reasonable doubt. I allers 'llowed he jined the Copperheads as a Adv. (Patriots was thicker in '63) and I 'llow the same of his New Departure of '71. It was a good one and set our Clement in the spot-light once mo' fur a few days. Horace Greeley writ a signed editorial about it. Had Horace left it out, also one about the KuKlux, and one on the Twelfth of July riots in New York, he'd of run better fur President the next year.

Clement was some of a Humbug. Greeley [P.T. Barnum, Ben, he was] said Himericans like to be humbugged. Had Clement lived he might of been Guvner of Ohio yet! (That is wot Clement run fur in '63) but A Man I know from Ohio says it wan't likely.

Ye see, 'taint like when Abe Lincoln 'd give War Democrat like Logan a fur-low to make a lot of speeches fer Abe's re-election and raise a new regiment, and whoop 'er up generally. A stranger 'd p'int: That man with the ebon mane and square shoulders, tawny epidermis, with shoulder-straps, is our highest volunteer non-West P'inter General—the one who rid his

charger down the battle-line befo' Atlanta, past the whole front of the Army of the Tennessee shoutin:

"McPherson and Revenge"

Then they both 'd in-list.

The dark, squar' General was John A. Logan.

British bumbarded Ostend. Ostend means east end, but is truly the west end of Belgium. Mebby its the east end of the Atlantic Ocean. Queen Victoria was a good friend of Leopold I. as a man and Christian, but not of Leopold II, whom she deemed at times improper, flirtin and carryin-on with actresses. She would of liked King Albert. Albert was named in honor of her own unforgotten Albert. He is strong and healthy, and has no bad habits, that is none ye kin decipher in a King,

Belgium, at the resk of sayin at the wrong time, aint got no sich record as a historic, independent nation like Ireland fur instance. The Dark and twilight Ages pervided fur Humanity no Woodrow Wilson: no one to insist that Belgium should determine her self. Outsiders did the determinin, mostly outside Kings. In short, sence Rome Declined the nomination and Fell, Belgium has been the football of warrin furrin

suvrins, the tradin stock of international conferences,

From first to last, Belgium has had three Kings, compairin with Ireland's seventy thousand; but these three all were able men.

Fur ages both Belgium and Holland was both known as the Low Coountries or Netherlands. Twas Religion that split 'em up the back; folks in Holland ready to tear a hole in the levy, or open the dikes rather, to let the sea in and drownd the Spnsiards out. Belgians took a biznez rather than religious view, ez how the sea'd on-fit the land fur oats too all-fired many years.

Up in Skagit county, Wash., is places ye kin still discern wot salt water will do to Oats. So Belgium sides, long years ago, for Spain, and against the stubborn Reformed Dutch ancestors of Stuyvesant Fish and Robert B. Roosevelt. From 1633 Belgium was held by Spain, and known as The Spanish Netherlands. At the tail-end of Marlbro's wars, Louis Fourteen after so many lickins still got in Philip of Bourbon, his candidate for King of Spain, which was wot King William went to war about. But William was dead, the Man in London Street had no mo' affection fur his memory than has a New York City crowd on the Twelfth of July. So Beljim was handed over to William's ally, Austria, without any determinin. Maria Theresa, like Victoria, had a big fambly, but a fine lot of

men to work for her. She sent to Belgium her husband's brother, Charles of Lorraine, "the Good Governor," who held his job fur forty year. He died in 1780, jest ahead of the Empris Queen. Like other good Governors, none other kin wield Excalibur. Maria T. made few reforms, but hers went; her son Joe begun a hull batch to once. Joseph failed teetotally, the Belgians revolted, and they was lades in Flanders. France, after Jemappes, 1792, commanded the hull kentry and kep' it till 1814, when it was handed back to Austria, agin without no determinin.

Kologne, Kassel, Koblentz all near, is hard on the cap. k box of Cologne Gazette as Berkeley and Oakland used to be on the p'tit k box.

In 1815, Congress of Vienna figgered it out mo' keerful, and jined together Holland and Belgium with William of Holland King of the United Netherlands.

The French revolution of 1830 biled over into Belgium, ketchin onprepared King William of Orange. A conference in London ap'inted Leopold of Saxe Coburg, brother of Victoria's mother, first King of the Belgians. The Dutch King balked fur eight year, then yielded. King Wm. IV of Britain agreed to squar' Holland by marryin Victoria to the Dutch King's younger son; Victoria balked and aided by Leopold, delayed negotiations till she herself was Queen. Whenever she had time she writ Leopold, reit-

aertin, thankin him fur pullin off her marriage
to Cousin Albert

Belgium's neutrality was guaranteed by
treaty, but when his spies reports them Eastern
forts impregnable, the Kaiser says:

"Necessity is the Mother of Invasion.

We will go to Paris by way of Brussels, then
hire some clever Himerican to justify us to
Beljim and the on-civilized world.

Coblentz to Weimar

Koblentz, occupied by Himericans, is one-9th the size of Koeln, or Cologne, occupied by the British, 65,000 to 600,000, due to the demand for eau-de-Cologne in Himerican towns of less 'n 5,000. I'd rather live in a 65,000 town than in a 600,000—I like to know and speak to everybody, which I kaint do to 600,000.

Greeks and Chermins took up K rather than put a ring-tail on C.

K for Greeks and C for Romans,
Seein' ez how theyre idem sonans.

Coblentz is important bekaze it commands the Moselle valley that taps France, which it penetrates a hundred mile. Ye kin go by steamboat 117 mi. to Treves, then walk, or by rail all the way. Koeln was the Roman Colonia, Coblentz the Roman Confluencia. Rhine and Moselle confluence at Coblentz. Cross the Rhine bridge of boats and climb Ehrenbreitstein "Rock of honor (famous) abroad," rising 400 feet above the river. Between Rhine and Moselle the city

is a regler triangle. A statue of Wilhelm I. at its apex in Ehrenbreitstein's frown, trans-Rhine.

A suburb of Kassel is Wilhelmshöhe, where Nap. III was kep' prizner in '70. It is right pretty, and they giv the Emperor lot mo' to eat than the prizners gits this war.

Thirty-six mile from Cassel, on root to Hannover, which Chermins spell with two n's, is a fine old varsity city, Goettingen:

Whene'er with haggard eyes I view

This duugeon I am rotting in,

I think of those companions true

Who studied with me at the University of Gottingen.

George Canning, premier of Britain, writ that.

I had a notion the Chermin varsities all was powful old: 83 years ago varsity of Gottingen wan't half as old as Harvard, 200, Gottingen 99.

Ever sence I read Goodrich's School History of the battles of Long Island and Brandywine, Ieh bin hoss-style to Chermins from Cassel and That solid formation did us in both battles. If Gen. Washington felt like me he didn't let on. He knowed they come from the finest part of Cherminland, so he located the prizners he got at Trenton on good Pennsylvania Doych farms.

The Fathers of the new Chermin republic emulated him in fixing theh Capital in the little pleasant 34,000 city of Weimar. They are mo' comfortable than was John Adams in the new U.S.A. capital: no lights, no sidewalks, no picture blays, and the cow not coming up nights, not half the time. —B. McCann.

Leipzig

Had Thebes a hundred Gates—
As sung by Homer ?——

I kaint say sure but this I know:

Leipzig had 200 printn' offices

Or one to every 2,400 folks. Some of 'em were bigger shops than the Blue Eye Banner's.. Per capita, anyway, it was was the great bookprintin town of the world. A book that Paul Elder would charge \$500 fur, ye could git published in Leipzig for \$469 flat. Ye see they hadn't no 8-hour day in Leipzig, and compositors didn't set type to the air of Deutschland ueber Alles. They used that to drink beer by, to or mit—on Sundays.

One of the bravest of all the braver

knights of the iron cross who fell in the 1914-19 war was Karl Baedeker. The war didn't show it, for Karl was killed in its first battle. All them red-kivvered books Himericans used to lug around Europe (Asia and Egypt) come from his store. When Paw would git reckless, Daughter 'd git out the red book and p'int out this:

"Make a bargain before you employ anybody in this town."

And his books said that oftener in Germany than in any other kentry. He hed the sand to stand by his koo-staymers. Folks made fun of his too-ris, but the best Books of Travel got their local color from the red books.

At Leipzig 106 years ago this Oct. 16-19, Napoleon felt some like Wilhlm II of same date 1918. The battle continued four days, the longest on record befo' this war. He had 140,000 men, of whom 50,000 were killed, wounded or disfiggered useless and helpless or total wrecks—against 300,000 Allies (Russia, Prussia, Austria). Saxony and Bavaria fit under Napoleon, who went right on home with his 90,000. On the Kronberg (east Leipzig) is the Napoleonstein, the rock on which Na-

oleon stood, with his arms folded and hat on crossways, and watched the decisive third day of the battle. The big Battle Monument is handy-by.

I jest see Uncle Blair's story-book: one place he says a French soldier gits 10 cts a day; he gits only about 5c; at the Month-End he has 37c left. British soldier gets 48 cts, 12 cts left. The Himerican gets a dollar: 10 cts left.

No deep plots in Uncle's stories and none in Dickens, Balzac, or 'Thackry. Anna Katherine Green has all four of em beat bad fur exciting plots.

Uncle plans to put out an American Comedy, not less than 1 of evry kind of people: 1 doctor, 1 lawyer, 1 soldier, 1 Quaker preacher, 1 fine lady, etc.

I write Leipzig, not Leipsic, to show I am a Chermin scholar.

Uncle Blair studied Chermin a few weeks with a Swiss preacher, who confessed he didn't pernounce well—too many French in his can-tone. He said the best Chermin was spoke in Saxe-own (Sachsen, Saxony) and Berlin (Preussen). Dresden and Leipzig are in Sachsen. I cal'lated Leipsic

and Dresden were not mo' then eleven mile apart. I find it's 74 mile by R. R. from Leipzig to Dresden, and only 101 to Berlin.

So Berlin comes next. —B.McC.

Dresden

Before I started for Berlin, I looked into an ancient Baedeker and read of Dresden, "the beautiful environs, the magnificent art gallery," and when I saw a "considerable English colony resides here, I hadn't the heart to give Dresden the go-by.

For years after, I'd catch myself fretting that I'd been within seventy-five miles of the golden statue of Fame sixteen feet high, and I never see it.

This statue is on top of the cupola of the Exhibition building of the Academy of Art. The picture collection is great, but it's some centuries since Dresden was at the top for picture-painters of her own.

The King's palace is fine. It got on fire in 1701, when it was 170 years old and Augustus the Strong was King. Marshal Saxe; who led the Irish and French to victory at Fontenoy, was a natural son of Augustus. Kings have

frequently unnatural sons, like Absalom. The Marshal had several natural brothers and half-brothers——sisters and half sisters.

Augustus was a taller, larger man than Samson, who kerried off the gates of Gaza, and is said to have been stronger. Augustus could of lifted the Gate of Hades off its hinges, but Frederick the Great was able to "lick" mo' people.

How big was Frederic II, Dad,

That people called him great?

When I see Dresden is 74 mile from Leipsic, I cal'lated it must be up high. It is only 370 feet above the level of the ocean by which Garfield said all heights are measured.

Leipsic is 15-foot higher 'n Dresden, on the historic Elbe. Leipsic is set out on a big perairy, near 3 comparative on-known rivers: Pleisse, Parhte, Elster. Dresden has about 450,000 population —Leipsic about 500,000. —B.

Low or High?

At first thought a civilian if he had the choosing would take the up-hill side in a battle, and push the lower enemy down. Lookout and Missionary Ridge both were won by the climbing army. To be above is easier on the "wind." On June 6, 1916, Austrians, after driving the Italians from Asiago, attacked Mt. Lemerle, three miles south, and on the morning of 8th, they carried the top of the mountain. An Italian brigade, retreating down the mountain, when part-way down, stopt on a bench or ledge on the southwest corner of the mountain and hung on, and the Austrians were unable to dislodge them, and after a few days the Austrians went away. Many of the big guns with which they had swept the top of the mountain, they were not able to bring to bear on the troops part-way down.

We Republicans used to denounce

the "Cobden club," years ago, for butting into American political campaigns with "British gold." In his lifetime on the other hand, Richard Cobden (who was not a rich man, though the club was) was addicted to praising of things American. At a time when Americans were ashamed of our shirt-sleeve diplomatists, Cobden asserted that ours were superior to those of England and Europe (in a letter to John Bigelow). This he thought, was because our foreign service was drawn from the whole body politic, not from one dog-eared, moth-eaten, blazzy class. [Our adjectives.]



The Jury often showed the big rise began Oct. 1916. A last months statement sets it back to '14. Says high-grade clothing increased 93 per cent, cheap clothing 13 per cent. Must be a typic error; overall that sold for 75c, brings \$1.49, \$1.50 and \$1.75 now.

A Giant's Growth

Berlin is mo' cosmopolitan than I exected to find so fur from the front-ear of other civilized nations. The name, to begin with, is of Slavic ancestry. If Louis Quatorze (which is French fur 14) didn't teetotly cripple France when he brake Henry Quatre's pledge to the Huguenots, it wan't his fault if it did benefit other nations but because France had a on-common supply of artist-artisans still adherin to the older faith. The Exiled ones were a pow'ful boost fur London, Amsterdam and Berlin. Last-named was so much smaller, the imported Huguenots showed up mo' in the ore biznez street than in Amsterdam even.

Up to 1701 wot was, ontill Nov. 10, 1918, the Kingdom of Prooshy went by rthe name of the Mark of Brandenburg. In them days Braudenbug had a lot mo' denizens than Berlin: a mark bejn the domain of a Margrave. This

margrave called hisself the Elector of Brandenburg ez how he had a vote at the election of one of the make-believe former-time figger-head German Emperers. His people, his creditors, and Posterity, called him The Great Elector. He was ambitious only fur his kentry.

They thrice presented him a kingly
crown,
Which he did thrice refuse.

His successor, Frederic III, was vainer and became Fredk I., King of Prooshy.

[At the time America had a Fort Dodge editor (Roberts) for Superintendent of the Mint (Mints, as they ought to say, for there were several—at Dahlenega, Carson City, Philadelphia, New Orleans and San Francisco) in fact up to 1915, a Mark was worth in Berlin some Twenty Cents. Unlike most other it didnt git no higher endurin the War. The coin, also the on-paper Mark, was named in honor of the Mark of Brandenburg.

The greatest thing Fredric William (the Great Elector) like King Albert of Belgium, ever did was to marry a handsome and sensible Bavarian girl: a Princess. She and he liked to coddle the infant Berlin. They never moved

to Berlin, but 'd drive the forty mile often to buy pretty French things at the shops. The Elector died 1688, the year of the English Revolution. In his time Berlin grew from 3,178 to 20,000. But from 1871 to 1901 Berlin beat all Europe:

1740	1840	1871	1875
90,000	331,895	826,000	966,858
1801—172,000	1910—2,071,259		

The Great Elector planted the row of lime trees(double)famous 200 years afterward, the Unter den Linden.

In my mind's eye I kin see the old Elector, jest turnin' sixty, diggin' the holes, and the Margravine Dorothea pattin' with her slender, shapely, high bred little hands, the dirt 'round the roots of the Linden.

His succesor, King Frederick I., removed the royal residence to Berlin—wearin a metal crown at times.

The famous park, the Thiergarten, has only one-sixth the area of Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, and about a fourth that of Golden Gate park. It is big enough to hold Berlin's two millions and give ten square feet per person.

Folks from abroad enter Berlin jest the same as Napoleon did, or the Great Elector hisself for that, thro the garten, then enter Unter den Lin

thro the Brandenburg Gate, a grand sandstone portal, 205 wide, and 85 foot high. The Quadraga of Victory that surmounts the Gate was kyarted off to Paris in 1807, but the Prussians brung it back to Berlin in 1814. The Gate has five passages, Entrances or Sorties, separated by Doric columns. Here begins Unter den Linden and runs E.N.E for about a mile to the gate of the royal palace. Two thirds of the way in is the statue of Frederic the Great. When Napoleon entered Berlin, Oct. 24, 1806, he stopped in front of Frederick the Great's statue on the Linden and lined up his staff to pay respect to Old Warrior Fritz. All presented the p'int of their naked swords, advanced to the base of the statue in perfect line, rapidly, then backed away. A bit of stage-play, not badly enacted.

Frederick the Great spent little time in Berlin, yet built up the city more than any other King.

As he rode his white horse that day along the Linden, Napoleon's face was strangely sour. The King and lovely Queen Louise had been sent to a safe retreat by Prince Hatzfelt. His fambl'y is roomered to 've invented felt hats! The Prince came humbly and srend'rd Berlin. "Go to your estate," ordered

Napoleon angrily. In the street parade Napoleon set upon his White Horse like a sceptered Misogynist. After the parade Napoleon was takin' off his spurs at noontime to wash up for dinner; he told his Chief of Staff to order a court martial fur that evening, and have Hatzfelt shot. Marshal Lanfrey and others pertested warmly that Hatzfeldt hadn't done nothin but stan' by his suvrin. "We got to skeer 'em right from the start," rej'ined the Emprer. "That's wot I told my brother, Joseph, as regards Italy."

They was a nice fowl for dinner, roasted fine, and gobs of Chicken Gravy, rich and fragrant, fur the Emprer to sop his bread in, and afterward he felt better, or else forgot Hatzfelt, and when they got around to Prince H., one of Napoleon's best Generals 'd guv the Prince a true tip; and he'd lit out for somewers on-known.

I find Berlin is built up mo' solid than I cal'lated: The city, thet hed 2,071,000 in 1910, covered 24½ square miles: Paris covers 36, Oakland 38.

"I 'llow readin' consarnin Berlin's big sewage farm guv me the notion Berlin was spread out and scattered-like, but the farm was located outside the city limits.

Fact is, not many years sence, Ber-

lin was classed by municipal improvement cranks as one of two model cities. Glasgow was the other. Each suffered some kind of frost. I think Glasgie got hers first. Mebby Berlin's rural neighbors disliked her sewage farms.

In 1910 Greater Berlin, with 1,376 sq. mi., contained 3,974,300 people.

I hed the honor to meet a Daylight Saver of Berlin who is also a Humorist by trade. These last ye kin identify by their weary eyes and extry serious conversation, never guilty of a jest, leastways not of a printable jest. These he composes and practices the sound of on the Linden between daylight and sun-up, and in the Tiergarten to the birds before the human bipeds arrive.

"Now, that the Empire is gespielt out," said he, "we may have again a Chermin Literature."

"The ill wind blowin good agin fur somebody.

"Have ye noted how weak has been Germany in pure literature—by that I mean or intend Literature disconnected with nor used as a tool or as a doormat by Commerce, Manufacturing or the World-Polittic—since 1871?

"I reckon physical power and war success tend to exalt Brute Force above Imagination. Think of Schiller or Lessing compelled to yield the sidewalk to a captain of Machine Guns, or a French spy in Chermin uniform?

Weimar, selected for the capital of the German Republic, more than a hundred years ago was the literary capital of the world, where four world famous poets lived at one and the same time—Goethe, Schiller, Wieland and Herder. All four couldn't make a livin in that one town of 15,000 or so (about 1800. Weimar had 34,581 in 1910) but for the friendship of the Grand Duke Charles Augustus (Karl August in the vernacular) who was a life member of the bunch hisself. It was 1776, first year of Himerican independence, when Charles Augustus invited Goethe to live in Weimar, and the great poet novelist accepted, and lived in Weimar for 56 years. He was prime minister part of the time and his three friends held other official jobs. Mæcenus was the friend and minister for twenty-three years of Augustus Emperor of Rome, the friend also of two eminent poets, Horace and Vergil. Goethe was the friend and minister of Charles Augustus of Saxo

Weimar. Augustus outlived his renowned Mæcenas, the most illustrious patron of literature, twenty-two years. Goethe outlived his patron four years. What a constitution Goethe had !

Schiller died 1805, Wieland 1813, Herder 1803, Charles Augustus 1828, Goethe 1832, age 83. Wieland late inherited. Herder, a preacher, lived in a Parsonage, back of his Weimar church, from 1776 till his death.

Theirs was an idyllic time, theirs the Augustan age—the Charles Augustan age, of Chermin literature !

Here and there in Weimar statues of the five, poets and Grand Duke, recall those memorable friends.

In 1792 Goethe soldiered in France; Karl August soldiered, too. also built a house for Goethe, in which he lived forty years. In 1885, Goethe's grandson gave it to the State, the family run out, as do sich a many great.

Here in Berlin are statues of Goethe, Schiller, Frederick II, Wilhelm I., Martin Luther, the Great Elector; Bismarck.

"Soldiers and militarists," continued the Jester, "make weak historians."

"Gibbon wan't much of a fightin man nor Hume, Macanlay or Greeley, or The German Struggle for Liberty Bigelow.

"Our only historians since '71 to equal Bigelow are Luedencamp and Tirpitz.

Cousins Overseas

When King Edward died in May, 1910, the article Uncle Blair writ wound up in a quoting out of Whittier:

When nearer strand shall lean to strand
Till meet beneath saluting flags
The Eagle of our mountain crags,
The Lion of our Mother Land.

It was read the first time then the rules was suspended and it passed unanimous at a meetin

Near the rude bridge that arched the flood

in April, 1875, jest a hunderd year after the shootin' between the British regulars and tho Minute Men from Concord. Them lines show that Whittier wes mighty near reconciled by April 19, 1875. Whittier wan't at the doins, hisself, to hear his poem read, or to decipher his handwritin in a pinch if the reader stalled. Whittier was awfle bashful, and would rayther

take a lickin' than appear at any sich function.

One nihgt at the London home of the latter, John Bright bragged up Whittier to George W. Smalley, saying he regarded "Snow-Bound," as one of the great poems, and asked Smalley if he could repeat it. The Tribune correspondent flushed up, hesitated, and answered

"No—Not all of it."

[Fur a fact, he couldn's recall a line and a half ot it.] Then Bright stood befo' the open fire, spread out his coat-tails, and recited the whole long poem. You kin believe it was no waste of time to hear John Bright reproduce poetry. Horace Greeley dedicated his History of the American Civil War

To John Bright
British Commoner and Christian Statesman
Who was the Friend of My Country
Because the Friend of Mankind"



In 1834 Daniel Webster said:

"Our Fathers raised their flag against a power to which for purposes of foreign conquest and subjugation, Rome, in the height of her glory, was not to be compared; whose morning drumbeat, following the sun and ac-

accompanied by the hours, circles the globe with a continuous and unbroken strain of the martial airs of England.

So you see, us present folks aint the only Himerican people who've forguv Britain.

That same year, 1910, Uncle Blair printed, in regards to Britain sendin' 250 000 men to South Afriky in the Boer war, that no other nation could transport and supply 250,000 men 6,000 miles from home. That was befo' Oakland and Hog Island hed took to buildin' to send acrost the Briny.

Our soldiers that hev see King George are a'most unanimous fur him. His ways suits the average Himerican right well, a sort of man to man style, not coddlin' uor even suave as some. He sent around a handy and handsome little fac simily auto graft libretto or soovneer of wot he would say to each man if they was time.

London is learnin to drink coffee at its meals —most Himericans is 'stonished to find London folks that never in all their born days took coffee fur breakfast. Coffee-houses of Addison's time served coffee as a luxury, not a necessity, at night and the Wits drunk it in evening dress, mo' like to hev Beer fur breakfas' than coffee. The One of the Bunch least intoxicated would read the Spectator out loud.

The main reason we don' drink mo' Tea is the Ostracism of 1768 come to be hereditary.

Dr. Franklin advised Boston to pay for the two ship-loads of Tea thrown into Boston Harbor in '73. That was called The Crime of '73. It didn't make Franklin any mo' popular in his native city.

Oxford University gave Gen. Pershing and Herbert Hoover the degree of D.C.L., same ez it conferred on Haig and Beatty. D. C. L. is a Doctor of Canon Law, in which examinations are easier than in the Civil Law. Pershing is versed in Cannon law with two n's, and Hoover in Can law.

I hear that Gen. Allenby is to be made a D.C.L. of Cambridge, which is roomered to of been Allenby's alma mater, if you know wot that means. Sir Owen Seaman, of Punch, went to the same school.



The first favorite of King George III (and his platonic but ambitious mother) was MyLord Bute, a Scottish gentleman for whom great Lord Chatham was turned out as Premier.

England is pretty well gridironed by railways, yet they are still back counties (as one says in America) a moiety of whose denizens travel not much, and still remember the Hundred Years' War of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth centuries and somehow are admirers of the French esprit, but not in equal degree with

King Edward and other great Englishmen who have been broadened by travel and association with the au fait of the belle, brave nation. At the time of the Drive of March, 1918, the British were driven west of the Somme. I at that time suspected that, mixed with the undoubted, undaunted courage of the British soldiery was a certain balkiness that dulled the edge of their attack and became an obstacle to the carrying out of the Army Commander's well-laid plans. Britain, since 1856, had been engaged in several far-flung little wars. The Boer war, even, was nothing like this. Modern warfare, as fought in Picardy, was toilsome in excess of its danger. Small wonder if Veteran Atkins was ready to inquire:

“Why didn't His Majesty hire
Hessians for this job?”

Lord Bute was a fine gentleman, and an able minister; moreover, of limited popularity in the City of London regiments.

In 1919 three Generals were in command of the British armies in three widely separated “theatres of action,” not counting Sir Douglas (now Earl) Haig—three of Scottish birth—Sir Archibald James Murray, Sir James Wolfe Murray, and Sir Charles Munro.

[James Wolfe Murray was born in Kent.]

When Moses (commanding on the Sinai front)

says to Joshuway, in trumpet tones:

"Speak to the Children of Israel that
they go forward!

"They kaint onderstand Scotch, Sir!"

Sir James Wolfe Murray, named in honor of a famous ancestor, the eaptor of Quebec, died in October, 1919. He and Sir Archibald Murray, who commanded in Egypt, 1915-17, were Lieutenant Generals.

It may be jealousy of French or Scotsman detracted somewhat from Haig's effectiveness, or a growl, "Where are the millon Americans?" This last German drive was a forlorn hope to forestall American reinforcements.

Haig, in '17 and early '18, was in a situation that recalls Grant before Petersburg. Grant had awarded to Sherman and Sheridan the spectacular work, and Sherman entered Atlanta, Sheridan swept the Valley, and Grant fought out h's weary battle slowly. He depended upon memory of Donelson and Vicksburg to hold the home folks for Grant, and ere the end came he had needed all.

In no less than England herself, Scotland had devoted blood and hard-earned pence to the Cause, proportioned to her number, men as freely as Generals. Such truth was recognized in England and throughout the Empire. The honors and rewards given to Earl Haig

evoked no carper. The son of Asquith lost had as a counterpart the son of Rosebery who fell before Jerusalem, or Redmond's brother, dead among Irish heroes, defender of Calais.

Fewer leaders were lost than in the U. S. A. War for Union, pro rata, whose combats were portrayed and losses reported mo' fully.

War Losses were reported to October, 1918:

Gr. Brtn—Killed	Wounded
Men— - 620,828	1,939,478
Officers— 37,876	92,664
<hr/>	<hr/>
658,704	2,032,142

Canada—

Men— 60,383
 Officers — 1,842—Total Casualties 220,182
 An earlier report says the Canadian casualties up to 11 days from capture of Mons totaled 211-358—killed, 34,877; died of wounds and disease 15,457; missing, 8,245; wounded, 152,779.

Cologne Gazette estimated German war dead to Oct. 25, 1918, at 2,000,000; total casualties 6,086,769, of which the following had:

	Dead	Wounded	Missing
Prussia 1,262,060		2,882,171	616,139
Bavaria 150,958		363,823	72,115
Saxony 108,017		252,027	51,787
Wurtmbrg 64,507		157,654	16,892
Navy 25,862		28,608	15,679

French casualties include 1,460,000 dead.

A statement issued in October, 1919, gives a British loss in gross tonnage of sea-going vessels, from submarines, etc.

Tonnage destroyed by Enemy,	9,031,828
Tons Net Loss to Britain	3,443,012

The difference, more than five and a half million tons had been replaced by "building, buying seizing."

In December, 1918, World almanac stated the public debt of the following nations:

Britain	\$33,000,000,000	France	\$26,000,000,000
Australia	1,212,000,000	Italy	10,328,000,000
Canada	1,172,000,000	Russia	25,383,000,000
N.Zealand	611,000,000	U.S.A.	19,000,000,000

At about the same date, a British delegate to Paris peace conference, estimated the total public debt of Britain at \$34,000,000,000.

Great sacrifices in aid of Britain were made by Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and other colonies, and evidenced how successful is the Colonial policy of Britain's later time. After United States entered the war, Canada seemed to abate, as unnecessary, something of effort.

Britain seems to have given United States a fair opening to the world's carrying trade, but Americans seem to prefer larger profits off one another. Reciprocating, they say to Britain: "Do your worst in Palestine, for all me!"

Peace

On the Friday or Saturday night preceding the general election of 1916, Uncle Blair and I went to Oakland Auditorium to hear Francis J. Heney urge the re-election of President Wilson. The great hall, with seats for 11,000, had been crowded, two weeks earlier, by voters intent to hear Mr. Charles E. Hughes; that was again replete with people assembled to listen to Woodrow Wilson himself, in September, 1919. It was not opened for Mr. Heney, who had a numerous audience in the smaller hall. On every chair had been deposited a half dozen pieces of "campaign literature." The title of one and the burden of all was:

"He Kept Us Out of War."

Likely not one person present had a suspicion that within six months this Peace President would be urging upon Congress a Declaration of War with Germany. This campaign Cry on many votes, notably of women in Suffrage

States. It is believed, however, that Hughes, had he been chosen President, would have been even more prompt to join the Allies.

Certain scary stories printed in American newspapers, of German plans to invade the United States through Mexico, etc., which appeared in 1916, were too absurd to merit such publication. Never since its formation had the Imperial German power been sufficient to inflict injury on the United States in the latter's home Continent.



Germany and the United States, conjoined, might have made a respectable showing against the naval power of Britain.

But there is no likelihood that they united could have won a conclusive victory. When, however, the United States joined Britain and France and Italy with forty battleships, 303 chasers, 32 cruisers, 68 submarines, 125 destroyers, 1900 ships in all, against 250 at the outset of the war, and our three millions of soldiers, Germany might with easy grace throw up the sponge in the presence of force majeure. It was possibly the plan of President Wilson and the American leaders to interpose, if at all, with a force so strong as to show Germany the uselessness of further bloodshed. It is likely the German high command were so convinced speedily, as was the Kaiser. More powerful, however, than the army chiefs or the people at

home, were the rank and file of the German army. They were in possession of all save a few square miles of Belgium and of an area of Northern France large as several Belgiums, and had been for almost four years; that Army had not yet been defeated in a single important battle. Mackensen had swept Roumania in a wonderful campaign, and Austrian troops were still inside the old boundaries of Italy.

On the surface the Germans were conquering. The relentless system organized by Mr. Lloyd George, Lord Devonport, Lord Rhondda, and Mr. Hoover, had almost completely taken the ground from under all the armies of the so-called Central Powers. To convince these armies and terminate the contest, more than a show of force was necessary, and thousands of American lives had to be sacrificed.

On Nov. 26, 1918, a statement was issued of American losses, as follows:

Killed in Action - 28,363

Died of Wounds 12,101

Died of Disease 16,032

" other causes 1,980

Wounded - 189,155

Miss'g in Action 14,290

The war of 1812 had cost United States about thirteen million dollars, and the Government had infinite difficulty raising that much money. The civil war 1861-5 cost nearly three and a half billions. When America went herself into the war of 1914-19, her

statesmen had apparently no thought of a possible bottom in her pocket. "Git a plenty while you're gittin!" "A National Debt is a National Blessing." "It all depends on who gets the interest." "Give our soldiers the best."

Not many years before, Charles A. Dana and the great editors denounced a Billion-Dollar Congress, the first of whom the appropriations for two years had reached \$1,000,000,000. The congress elected in 1916 authorized taxation never before approached in America, raised by loans more than twenty-five billions, loaned nine billions to the Allies and raised the National total debt from slightly more than a billion in 1916 to thirty billions in 1918.

U. S. A. Exports to June 30:

To—	1915	1914
England	\$835,585,779	\$558,647,390
Scotland	53,612,156	33,950,947
UnitedK.	911,792,454	
Germany	28,863,354	341,794,276
France	369,397,170	159,818,924
Italy	184,819,683	74,233,678
Netherlds	143,067,019	112,215,673
Austria-H'y	1,240,167	22,718,258

An unprecedented increase in the cost of food and commodities began in the autumn of 1916, due presumably to "Lloyd-George" measures. Flour and many other staples, despite war

buying, were cheaper in 1915 than in 1913. Under an agreement with Great Britain, in 1918, the United States in 1918 and '19 maintained the price of wheat at \$2.26, minimum—the first wheat “corner” that ever won out in America—when Australia wheat sold for a dollar. In 1916, Lloyd-George noted possibly the \$300,000,000 1915 increase (50 per cent) in our exports to Britain, and soon after asked British holders of American railway securities to deposit them with Government; this many were at first loth to do, bonds of this class being relied on for income; in the end all came in, the interest going still to the owners. These were of vast amount, and fear of them being put in mass on the market caused capital to favor our entry into the war. Under a War Power decision of our Supreme Court, the President took over all the American railways. Our government paid out more than the excess of exports, but most was spent at home; all our war bonds are held in America.

The increase in cost of food was estimated at 65 per cent, clothing 90.

The Federal Reserve banking system in operation before the War, had given a more flexible currency and probably afforded opportunity to increase cost. At no time was there danger of sus-

pension of specie payments, as in the civil war, despite inflation. New York reserve banks Dec. 6 '19, had capital \$10,350,000; profits, \$402,527,900; deposits \$4,228,037,000; loans, \$4,963,349,000; U. S. Fed. reserve circulation \$2,881,357,000.

Ill-judged, cruel sinking of Lusitania gave us no fair pretext to fight. Britain never asked any other nation to protect passengers under her flag. She was right in the Trent case. The deck of a British ship is British territory.

The powers of the American President include no fictions. No King or other Executive wields so much actual power. A British Chancellor of Exchequer represents the House of Commons' majority, not the nominal Executive. If he submits a budget of which a Cabinet disapproves, he drops out. If the House disapproves, the whole Cabinet resign. If we adopt a budget system, the man at its head must be a member of the lower House of Congress. A President's appointee in such a place would be a bureaucrat powerless. As we said of a proposed Tariff Commission, the House will not give up control of revenue. Work of 1883 Tariff Commission all had to be done over again by Congress.

Nor will the Senate give up treaty making. A President alone may carry

on a war, but he cannot make a treaty of peace without the Senate. Treaties are the law of the land, enacted by the least numerous, less popular house, a look toward oligarchy, under rule of parties not worth noting. The party whip lashes President and Senator. In the end, public opinion rules. It is hindered more by our Constitution, is in effect more tardily than Britain's.

July 10 the President just from Paris presented the Treaty to the Senate. An amendment, restoring Shantung to China was defeated 55 to 38; Johnson's rejecting the article giving Britain and her Colonies 6 votes in the proposed League, failed, 38 to 40; also Gore's requiring a declaration of war to be submitted to popular vote; 67 to 16. Foreign Relations Committee had the previous day adopted a Preamble and Ten Reservations to amend the Treaty Nov. 13 Senate passed reserve of Art. X, objected to as apt to entangle us.

2. United States declines to assume under Art. X or any other article, any obligation to preserve the territorial integrity or independence of any other country, or to interfere in controversies between nations, whether members of the League or not. * *

Adopted 46 to 33.

3. Reserves freedom of action upon

home and boundary questions; 59 to 36.

Reserve complete jurisdiction of the Monroe doctrine to U. S. 55 to 33.

Withholding assent to clause under which Japan keeps Shantung: 53 to 41.

Am. appointees to staff of League to be approved by Senate. 53 to 40.

German trade of U.S. to be regulated by Congress, not Reparations Com. 54-40

Armaments limitation not to apply to U.S. threatened with invasion. 56 to 39

Congress to appropriate U. S. share of League expenses. 56 to 39.

Reserves freedom of intercourse with nationals of covenant-breaking States not living in their own country. 53-41.

No article shall contravene rights of American citizens. 51 to 41.

Nov. 26, Treaty, with reservations, failed in the Senate, 41 to 51. Preamble (by Senate) required acceptance by three of four chief treating powers.

Appropriations for year ending June 30, '20, \$5,629,486,439.42. Estimates for '21, \$4,186,196,358. But a deficit for '20 of \$2,890,000,000 will make the revenue required for '20-21 seven billions.

Lloyd-George, dissolving the Long Parliament in the psychic moment of victory, got 331 majority. Coalitions are always weak. Like Missouri mules they have no pride of ancestry (a great point with old Tory), no "principles."

Essential components are likely to fly the track in perilous crises. Ministers find post bellum troubles worst. Riots and Chartism deglamored Waterloo.

Liberals accidentally got the worst of it; they had a fine majority 1905-14; in old days Tories rather favored Germany, Liberals Russia.

Exports to	1917	1918
United Kingd'm	\$2,047,545,843	\$1,994,894,260
France.....	1,011,528,095	890,481,515
Italy.....	360,529,625	477,530,202
Russia.....	423,284,663	116,705,346
Exports from U. S.	1918	1917
Breadstuffs.....	\$633,309,485	\$588,683,454
Meat & Dairy Prd	679,848,942	403,192,279
Cotton.....	665,021,655	548,074,699
Corn.....	75,306,692	72,476,204
Oats.....	105,881,233	88,844,401
Wheat.....	80,802,842	298,178,795
Flour.....	244,861,440	93,198,174
Beef, canned.....	30,051,507	16,946,630
Fresh.....	67,386,359	26,277,271
Total exp. & imp.	8,874,000,000	8,949,000,000

The excess of exports over imports, the balance of trade that enabled us to maintain specie payments as against 1862-78, was \$3,631,000,000 in '17, and \$2,982,000,000 in 1918.

In passim, I note the Conferens. put Voels-near-Innsbruck and Voels-near-

Botzen in separate nations. This will please the Postoffice heads.

In several Capitals is a feelin we've not done our sheer, et we hev paid out mo' in two years than some in five. I am willin, now that Roosevelt's gone, to raise a army of old franc tieurs, a Flyin Colyum of Maine to Californy veterans, to settle now and then the hash of sich of the New Republics as gits obstreperous, and mebbly organiz a few new ones here and there. I am skeert of U.S.A. as sich undertakin the job, as some allied big bugs ask.

I see in a pay-purr thet purrs fur pay per'aps, our Aviator service asked fifteen billions of next year's budget—a error on purpose to injure the service. I favor raisin the service to the highest p'int of the Zenith; but insist that in-future N. Y. to S. F. races be run in relays. Too many avvytors got killed that last trip that the Sky Pilot Maynard from Syracuse won. Long before avyatin was drempt of they called the preachers Sky Pilots.

Crossin' the Atlantic is a strange, hard, unfamiliar stunt, but crossin the Mississippi valley is worsen. Oceans is known to be climate equalizers, but a avvytor in one day is probble to have eighteen sorts of climate in O'io alone. Several competers reported a stratum of rough air above Chicago so pungent they near fainted and fell out. If they

'd put a Chicago man in at Crestline he 'd flown over the Peairy Metropolis and not knowed they was a stock y'ds less than a thousand miles off.

Near the Continental watershed, on the fur west rim of the big, on-sartin pork-producer Valley, is where most got killed, over ground so level ez to make even the preacher believe he was sailin down the Mohawk. Fact is, the ground under the plane has a sworn elevation of mo' than ten thousand foot. Right soon a hill about 400 foot high confronts him. When he tries to riz over it he finds the danged plane has alredy riz to its limit, and kaint go no higher. Next thing we know he's at the pearly Gates, bonin' Sant Peter to pass him in on 13-em rule.

Why, knowin' railroadin' good as we do now, after eighty-odd year, the Super, when he puts on a new Flyer doesn't pick out an engineer that has never been over the Division, but one rather who kin tell by the feel of any bridge 'bout when the road will go into the hands of a Receiver if the Government don't commandeer it.

I used to know an engineer on the Katy who could tell within five second of the time by the weather cock on Pike Anderson's barn. He kerried a

good watch to comply with the rules, but the boys said he never looked at it when on duty.

I got into a j'int debate with a English D. S. O. whether people of a monarchy or republic has most so-called Byzantinism or respect for authority. I p'inted out to him that his kentry raised most of its troops by volunteerin, but we hadn't time, and drafted. Folks as didn't spose U.S.A., 'd ever fight again, found on notice of few days they'd have to go to Europe to war, not knowin or keerin' wot was it about. If a draft had come at first and that sudden, in England——! None our men made trouble. Some cussed under their but went like men. Widely informed as I am, when-in '16 I see a paper in Greece urge U.S.A. to intervene, I says: "Does that Levanter pyrite fancy U.S. will ever butt in on Europe, speshil on sich a nasty fight?" Inside a year we were in on both feet.

Wot made Lardner's "hit the spot" was a King is mo' anxious to please the people than a republic's burocrat, who is one of the people hissself, and don't keer if ye kaint find the way in but he wants you to know the way out. A Briton wood of wrote the Spectator: 'W'y aint they no sign "Entrance" as

well as "Sortie" on that ticket-office?"
A absolute monarch everybody kicks.

I mean to buy some lots in Beirut, then build a Short Line to Bagdad via Damascus, beat Constantnople all to pieces on through business. They's a small desert between Damascus and Bagdad that won't originate much bizness till we get water on it, mebbby from "the Abana and Pharpar, rivers of Damascus." Damascus is a big shipper. Damascus, O., is a small place, but Damascus Station almost a mile northeast, is smaller. Damascus refused a bouus to the P.F.W.&C. in (about) 1855 so they built the road a mile off, to do the town up. [Company elaimed Damascus was too near Heaven.] When the Pennsylvany took over the line, the big company stood by the old. Blair lived for seven years four mile south of Damascus, but was never in Damascus in his life. In a magazine article in 1918 I said:

"Once a year, Uncle Blair passed thro' Damascus Station on root to N. Benton, Mahoning county, via Berlin (Center.); he was in Damascus but onst in his lie. His uncle had took Blair to Hicksite Quaker yearly meeting at Salem, and thot it only fair to give the orthodox (Wilbur) yearly meeting at

Damascus a chance at the Prodigy." I find the meeting house is forty rod east of town. A mile north of Blair the road plunges down to the Mahoning, then right up agin in two hills so steep it minds you of them neerd the upper O'io. No one'd drive a ker-ridge that road. One day two cousins visited Blair and he walked with them that far homeward. They advised him not to go down the hill; the other time he and some boys went down one hill, but the up-hill looked too steep, so they walked down the Mahoning past Galbraith's dam and saw-mill.

In 1910 I writ that when Wilhelm II come on in '88 folks looked fur him to be "the deesturber of Europe," but he'd done gone and been twenty year without a war or even a battle.

The ex-Kizer read Plutarch at a too early age. The Happy Warrior is old Franz Joseph. He did mo' to start the War, but died Dec.'16, in full tide of victry, after a reign of 69 years of trouble fur his wife and relations and a purty good time fur hissself. It was stormin' revolution when he come on in '48, but he won out; lucky. Seems like Vienna is worse off than Berlin.

Congress of Vienna (1815) 'll sneak out of history comparative unimportant. Contrast cynic Metternich, coun-

tin only Kings, and Wilson, lookin' out for every two-spot.

British hev been runnin a car-ferry to France fur months, bigger 'n them at Kalama or Benicia, but papers jest recent printed its picture. A fine job, haulin ammynition that-away, airy-planes droppin bums. A tunnel to Calais 'd been built many year sence but fur Britains trust in Hearts of Oak. A Corprals gard 'd hold the other end of the tunnel agin most of Europe, with Britain commandin the sea, releasin half the Grand Fleet for attack.

Blair calls my eye to anachronism—I made Napoleon quote Cincinnatus of the West some nineteen year before Byron wrote it: that's like me—like Napoleon, too.

The old lady formerly called State Rights may justly paraphrase King Pyrrhus (of Fiume):

One more Democratic victory
and I am Ruined

If I aint Ruined already. On the Day of Judgment the Distriet Attorney, Simon Peter, may examine not under four Democratic Presidents:

"Thomas Jefferson, you said that government is best that govrens least?

How about the War Power? You insisted the Constitution must be strictly construed? "I did.

"Yet you stretched it awful to let in a territory of imperial destiny

Andrew Jackson, you threatened to hang S. Carolina State Rights leaders.

Grover Cleveland, I have here a letter from Gov. Altgeld, denouncing you for trampling on the rights of his State.

"Keep it—I don't want it.

A middle-sized soldier in light blue p-pants, dark-blue dress coat, shoulder straps, took the stand:

"What's your name, my boy?

"McKinley.

"Your (so called) Christian name?

"William.

Rank and regiment?

Major, Twenty-third Ohio.

A handsome youth in kaki comes up.

Saint Peter—Wot Regiment?

"159th, A.E.F.

The old lady bust into sobs. O Woodrow, the worst biff of all comes from thee. Poor boy has no home State!

The boy, with dignity—I went from California; I fought for America.

Telegram. Marchese di Mirandola to Sallie Yates: Married, Christmas, 1919, Charlotte Augusta Hartman and Chevalier McCann. I asked Ben: Aint you skeert to marry with 1 foot in the grave?" "In Sondrio I thot I had both feet in the grave and my haid' most ready to be kivered up.

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